

Written Testimony Submitted via Survey Monkey

Name:	Organization/City
1 Jack V Miuccio	Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans
2 Linda Van Den Eeden	North Aurora
3 William H. Lowendick	Italian American Executives of Transportation
4 JoAnn Magnine	Chicago
5 Frank Conci	Chicago
6 Nicholas Neri	Chicago
7 Charles Tocci	Chicago
8 David Steiber	Chicago
9 Christian Perry	Black Millennial Renaissance
10 Syda Segovia-Taylor	Organic Oneness
11 Frank	Chicago
12 Elena Marcheschi	Chicago

#1

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, May 20, 2021 9:41:53 AM
Last Modified: Thursday, May 20, 2021 9:52:08 AM
Time Spent: 00:10:15
IP Address: 3.135.183.81

Page 1

Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name: Jack V Miuccio
Organization (if any): Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans
City/Town: Des Plaines
State: IL
ZIP: 60018

Q2

Tell us which meeting you wish to be recorded as a witness. If you don't know the meeting or date, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar. Please fill out a separate form for each meeting at which you wish to speak.

**Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee
Public Hearing 5/24/2021 230p**

Q3

Tell us the File ID number (example 17-0000) of the item on which you are registering your position. If you don't know the number, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look it up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar

21-0565

Q4

What do you want to do?

REGISTER IN OPPOSITION to a specific item (You may add written comments below)

Q5

Written Statement? You can type or copy/paste any written statement you want included in the meeting record here. If this is not enough space, or you have other attachments for distribution, please email them to cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov

Italian-Americans only have one day per year to honor their heritage; please don't take that away from us!!

Q6

Submitting written testimony only

Please Indicate if you are only submitting written testimony or if you wish to address the Committee live (virtually) at the meeting.

Q7

Respondent skipped this question

If requesting to address the Committee live (virtually), please provide an email address and phone number (This is required to receive an invitation to the virtual meeting).

#2

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, May 20, 2021 11:36:54 AM
Last Modified: Thursday, May 20, 2021 11:40:04 AM
Time Spent: 00:03:09
IP Address: 73.211.53.160

Page 1

Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name: Linda Van Den Eeden
City/Town: North Aurora
State: IL
ZIP: 60542

Q2

Tell us which meeting you wish to be recorded as a witness. If you don't know the meeting or date, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar. Please fill out a separate form for each meeting at which you wish to speak.

**Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee
Public Hearing 5/24/2021 230p**

Q3

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I oppose Celebrating Indigenous Peoples' Day. Keep Columbus Day.

Q4

What do you want to do?

REGISTER IN OPPOSITION to a specific item (You may add written comments below)

Q5

Written Statement? You can type or copy/paste any written statement you want included in the meeting record here. If this is not enough space, or you have other attachments for distribution, please email them to cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov

I oppose Celebrating Indigenous People's Day. We need to keep Columbus Day as a celebration of my heritage, too. Everyone needs to be celebrated and no one should be excluded or "changed" out, like what is happening with Columbus Day.

Q6

Submitting written testimony only

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Q7

If requesting to address the Committee live (virtually), please provide an email address and phone number (This is required to receive and an invitation to the virtual meeting).

Email Address

vandenlt@comcast.net

#3

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, May 20, 2021 12:15:28 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, May 20, 2021 12:21:01 PM
Time Spent: 00:05:32
IP Address: 98.228.165.248

Page 1

Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name:	William H. Lowendick
Organization (if any):	Italian American Executives of Transportation
City/Town:	Plainfield
State:	IL
ZIP:	60555

Q2

Tell us which meeting you wish to be recorded as a witness. If you don't know the meeting or date, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar. Please fill out a separate form for each meeting at which you wish to speak.

**Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee
Public Hearing 5/24/2021 230p**

Q3

Tell us the File ID number (example 17-0000) of the item on which you are registering your position. If you don't know the number, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look it up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar

21-0565

Q4

What do you want to do?

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Q5

Written Statement? You can type or copy/paste any written statement you want included in the meeting record here. If this is not enough space, or you have other attachments for distribution, please email them to cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov

I am opposed to the removal of the Columbus Statues in Chicago. Additionally, I am opposed to the replacement of Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples Day.

Q6

Submitting written testimony only

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Q7

If requesting to address the Committee live (virtually), please provide an email address and phone number (This is required to receive an invitation to the virtual meeting).

Email Address

william.h.lowendick@outlook.com

Phone Number

+15139108894

#4

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, May 20, 2021 2:53:25 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, May 20, 2021 2:57:24 PM
Time Spent: 00:03:59
IP Address: 99.138.173.220

Page 1

Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name: JoAnn Magnine
City/Town: Chicago
State: IL
ZIP: 60656

Q2

Tell us which meeting you wish to be recorded as a witness. If you don't know the meeting or date, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar. Please fill out a separate form for each meeting at which you wish to speak.

**Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee
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Q3

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File#21-0565

Q4

What do you want to do?

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Written Statement? You can type or copy/paste any written statement you want included in the meeting record here. If this is not enough space, or you have other attachments for distribution, please email them to cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov

Short as possible ..Keep Columbus Day! Indigenous Peoples Day should have it's own day. which I thought it did...Keep October 12th as Columbus Day!

Q6

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Q7

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Email Address

jamagnine@sbcglobal.net

Phone Number

7736315579

#5

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, May 20, 2021 5:06:18 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, May 20, 2021 5:19:03 PM
Time Spent: 00:12:44
IP Address: 98.226.11.23

Page 1

Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name:	Frank Conci
City/Town:	Chicago
State:	IL
ZIP:	60656

Q2

Tell us which meeting you wish to be recorded as a witness. If you don't know the meeting or date, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar. Please fill out a separate form for each meeting at which you wish to speak.

**Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee
Public Hearing 5/24/2021 230p**

Q3

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Resolution 21-0565

Q4

What do you want to do?

REGISTER IN OPPOSITION to a specific item (You may add written comments below)

Q5

Written Statement? You can type or copy/paste any written statement you want included in the meeting record here. If this is not enough space, or you have other attachments for distribution, please email them to cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov

I OPPOSE resolution 21-0565. It is not right to take away Columbus holiday and replace it with a holiday that already has 4. I am a first generation Italian American. My parents came to Chicago with no education yet they worked hard. They had COURAGE. Columbus represents those who had COURAGE and Immigrated here.

Q6

Submitting written testimony only

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Q7

Respondent skipped this question

If requesting to address the Committee live (virtually), please provide an email address and phone number (This is required to receive and an invitation to the virtual meeting).

#6

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 21, 2021 7:01:25 AM
Last Modified: Friday, May 21, 2021 7:05:16 AM
Time Spent: 00:03:51
IP Address: 23.25.14.18

Page 1

Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name: Nicholas Neri
City/Town: Chicago
State: IL
ZIP: 60611

Q2

Tell us which meeting you wish to be recorded as a witness. If you don't know the meeting or date, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar. Please fill out a separate form for each meeting at which you wish to speak.

**Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee
Public Hearing 5/24/2021 230p**

Q3

Tell us the File ID number (example 17-0000) of the item on which you are registering your position. If you don't know the number, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look it up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar

21-0565

Q4

What do you want to do?

REGISTER IN OPPOSITION to a specific item (You may add written comments below)

Q5

Written Statement? You can type or copy/paste any written statement you want included in the meeting record here. If this is not enough space, or you have other attachments for distribution, please email them to cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov

I am in complete support of the preservation of Columbus Day. In no way, shape, or form should Columbus Day be replaced with any other holiday, cause, or purpose and shall remain its own day of celebration and acknowledgement. Columbus Day is a meaningful and triumphant point in America's history in which the Italian Americans are extremely proud of. This day must be preserved at all costs!

Q6

Submitting written testimony only

Please Indicate if you are only submitting written testimony or if you wish to address the Committee live (virtually) at the meeting.

Q7

Respondent skipped this question

If requesting to address the Committee live (virtually), please provide an email address and phone number (This is required to receive and an invitation to the virtual meeting).

#7

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 21, 2021 9:08:52 AM
Last Modified: Friday, May 21, 2021 9:14:18 AM
Time Spent: 00:05:26
IP Address: 108.247.249.230

Page 1

Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name:	Charles Tocci
City/Town:	Chicago
State:	IL
ZIP:	60618

Q2

Tell us which meeting you wish to be recorded as a witness. If you don't know the meeting or date, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar. Please fill out a separate form for each meeting at which you wish to speak.

**Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee
Public Hearing 5/24/2021 230p**

Q3

Tell us the File ID number (example 17-0000) of the item on which you are registering your position. If you don't know the number, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look it up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar

21-0597

Q4

What do you want to do?

REGISTER IN FAVOR of a specific item (You may add written comments below)

Q5

Written Statement? You can type or copy/paste any written statement you want included in the meeting record here. If this is not enough space, or you have other attachments for distribution, please email them to cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov

As an American of Italian descent, I am ashamed that Columbus is symbolic figure used to celebrate my family's history and my community's contributions to our history. I implore you to please recognize Indigenous People's Day as one step towards rectifying this.

Q6

Submitting written testimony only

Please Indicate if you are only submitting written testimony or if you wish to address the Committee live (virtually) at the meeting.

Q7

Respondent skipped this question

If requesting to address the Committee live (virtually), please provide an email address and phone number (This is required to receive and an invitation to the virtual meeting).

#8

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 21, 2021 1:29:29 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 21, 2021 1:36:45 PM
Time Spent: 00:07:16
IP Address: 73.209.28.210

Page 1

Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name: David Steiber
City/Town: Chicago
State: IL
ZIP: 60653

Q2

Tell us which meeting you wish to be recorded as a witness. If you don't know the meeting or date, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar. Please fill out a separate form for each meeting at which you wish to speak.

**Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee
Public Hearing 5/24/2021 230p**

Q3

Tell us the File ID number (example 17-0000) of the item on which you are registering your position. If you don't know the number, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look it up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar

File #21-0565

Q4

What do you want to do?

REGISTER IN FAVOR of a specific item (You may add written comments below)

Q5

Written Statement? You can type or copy/paste any written statement you want included in the meeting record here. If this is not enough space, or you have other attachments for distribution, please email them to cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov

Letter to Cook Country Commissioners for Removing Columbus Day

My maternal grandfather came over from Italy when he was 12 years old. At that time our country was far more welcoming to immigrants and his family was allowed to come here for a better life. I always looked up to my grandfather. He was a storyteller, a hard worker, and someone who cared about people. I looked up to him so much that I named my first born child after him.

It's important to find honorable people that inspire us and that we can look up to. As someone with Italian ancestry let me just reiterate what many have been saying for generations...Christopher Columbus is not it.

Growing up I always heard the tired regurgitated lines of "...in 1492 Columbus sailed the ocean blue and discovered America...". It wasn't until college that I learned that when Columbus came to America he raped, enslaved, murdered, and tortured indigenous Arawak people. Columbus never deserved a holiday. The recent step by Chicago Public Schools to replace Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples' Day is one Native Americans and other activists have been fighting for for years. Cook County needs to follow suit and stop celebrating Columbus Day immediately.

There are many other, appropriate, Italian Americans that could be celebrated if Italian Americans felt that they needed someone to look up to. As a white person, as someone who has half Italian ethnicity, I'm embarrassed by the resistance by those against replacing Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples' Day.

Teaching true history is necessary in our society. There are age appropriate ways to teach the truth about Columbus to children. Recently, I had my high school students research what Columbus actually did and then create 1st grade age-appropriate yet historically accurate books. The students then took the books to a local elementary school and read the books to the 1st graders there. Many resources exist already to teach children of all ages what Columbus actually did. Many states and cities have stopped celebrating the holiday.

In time, nearly all people will realize that honoring a raping murder is not a good idea. It's time that white people, especially Italian American white people, speak up. The name Columbus, should be said with the same disgust as the name Hitler, Mussolini, and every other person who has committed atrocities in history. The Columbus "holiday" needs to be erased from the fabric of our country.

It is now time for all of Cook County to celebrate Indigenous Peoples' Day.

It is beyond time to honor the people who were here first.

It is beyond time to stop honoring a murderer.

Dave Stieber
National Board Certified High School Social Studies Teacher
M. Ed. Policy
Chicago Public Schools parent and teacher
Chicago, Cook County resident, constituent of Bill Lowry's district
50% Italian ancestry

Q6

Submitting written testimony only

Please Indicate if you are only submitting written testimony or if you wish to address the Committee live (virtually) at the meeting.

Q7

Respondent skipped this question

If requesting to address the Committee live (virtually), please provide an email address and phone number (This is required to receive and an invitation to the virtual meeting).

#9

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 21, 2021 1:42:09 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 21, 2021 1:48:41 PM
Time Spent: 00:06:31
IP Address: 73.209.28.210

Page 1

Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name:	Christian Perry
Organization (if any):	Black Millennial Renaissance
City/Town:	Chicago
State:	IL
ZIP:	60458

Q2

Tell us which meeting you wish to be recorded as a witness. If you don't know the meeting or date, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar. Please fill out a separate form for each meeting at which you wish to speak.

**Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee
Public Hearing 5/24/2021 230p**

Q3

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#21-0565 & #21-0597

Q4

What do you want to do?

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Q5

Written Statement? You can type or copy/paste any written statement you want included in the meeting record here. If this is not enough space, or you have other attachments for distribution, please email them to cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov

To The Cook County Board of Commissioners,

On behalf of Black Millennial Renaissance, a network of Black Millennials and their allies fighting to end systemic racism, I'd like to emphatically state our support of the proposed resolution 21-0565 Celebrating Indigenous Peoples' Day!

It's extremely important that Cook County seizes every opportunity provided, to respond to this moment of reckoning our country is currently experiencing. The repairing of harm done by celebrating a piece of our country's past, that is painful to many, is one small but meaningful step in the right direction.

The symbols we embrace, heroes we uplift, and narratives we deem normative mean something. For Indigenous people and African-Americans our society has placed our truths in the recesses of our collective consciousness in order to preserve a vision of ourselves that is more cognitively pleasing. This moment is calling on all of us, to make right what we can, and to fight in pursuit of what's not immediately within our grasps.

The acknowledgement of Indigenous Peoples' Day is within our grasp. We implore you all to seize the moment. Thank you.

In Gratitude & Service,
Christian D. Perry
Lead Strategist
Black Millennial Renaissance

Q6

Submitting written testimony only

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Q7

Respondent skipped this question

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#10

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 21, 2021 1:54:47 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 21, 2021 2:00:55 PM
Time Spent: 00:06:07
IP Address: 73.209.28.210

Page 1

Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name:	Syda Segovia-Taylor
Organization (if any):	Organic Oneness
City/Town:	Chicago
State:	IL
ZIP:	60076

Q2

Tell us which meeting you wish to be recorded as a witness. If you don't know the meeting or date, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar. Please fill out a separate form for each meeting at which you wish to speak.

**Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee
Public Hearing 5/24/2021 230p**

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#21-0565 #21-0597

Q4

What do you want to do?

REGISTER IN FAVOR of a specific item (You may add written comments below)

Q5

Written Statement? You can type or copy/paste any written statement you want included in the meeting record here. If this is not enough space, or you have other attachments for distribution, please email them to cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov

Beloved Cook County Commissioners & Board Secretary,

I hope this letter finds you all happy and healthy. I am a Cook County resident strongly in support of changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day (File #21-0565) and the reading of a Land Acknowledgement at monthly Board meetings (File #21-0597), both referred to committee at the Dec 2020 Board Meeting.

I and many thousands of other Cook County residents call on you to uphold your commitment to racial equity, and begin to right the wrongs of the past. All of Cook County and Cook County Forest Preserve lands were Native lands before colonizers arrived. The 65,000 Native residents of Cook County today aren't asking that everyone leave, but they are asking for recognition, and deserve honoring, just as you did recently with Juneteenth, as a first step in the long road toward justice.

Indigenous Peoples' Day will finally acknowledge Indigenous people, celebrate their contributions to governance and respect for the land, and understanding of the interconnectedness of all things. It is important to say, very clearly, that this change is not anti-Italian but is about truth and justice for the greater humanity. We have love for our Italian American sisters and brothers, they are a part of the human family. The purpose of the Indigenous Peoples' Day movement is to end the celebration of a man who brought genocide, slavery and exploitation of indigenous people to the Americas. Continuing Columbus Day will cease our progress of healing as a society and continue to give power to the oppressors.

PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597. We know you have received over 1000 e-mails in support since May 3rd! Your constituents will remember how you vote on these items when it comes time for your re-election campaigns. Also, when we look back on history I hope we will all be able to say we chose the path of truth, justice and healing for all people.

Thank you for your time and support on this crucial matter.

In Service to Humanity,
Syda S. Taylor
Founder/Executive Director, Organic Oneness
She/Hers/Her

Organic Oneness is a grassroots, social justice nonprofit organization that co-creates with communities to mobilize systemic change, healing, and wellness, foregrounding Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC).

Q6

Submitting written testimony only

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Q7

Respondent skipped this question

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#11

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 21, 2021 2:10:42 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 21, 2021 2:17:17 PM
Time Spent: 00:06:34
IP Address: 50.205.19.202

Page 1

Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name:	Frank
City/Town:	Chicago
State:	IL
ZIP:	60634

Q2

Tell us which meeting you wish to be recorded as a witness. If you don't know the meeting or date, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar. Please fill out a separate form for each meeting at which you wish to speak.

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21-0565

Q4

What do you want to do?

REGISTER IN OPPOSITION to a specific item (You may add written comments below)

Q5

Written Statement? You can type or copy/paste any written statement you want included in the meeting record here. If this is not enough space, or you have other attachments for distribution, please email them to cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov

My family and other families Celebrate Columbus Day by going to the parade and spending the day downtown. My parents came to America from Italy with nothing and worked hard for what they believe in. My parents always looked forward to Columbus Day in which a day to celebrate there heritage and what Christopher Columbus had accomplished. My family will always celebrate Columbus Day! The ONLY DAY ITALIAN AMERICANS HAVE!!!!

I firmly believe in the celebration of ones' cultural heritage, but not at the expense of another.

There are already four separate dates and occasions that celebrate Indigenous People on the local and national level, therefore, confiscating Columbus Day is not fair, nor acceptable.

Sincerely,
Frank Dipaolo

Q6

Submitting written testimony only

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Q7

Respondent skipped this question

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#12

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 21, 2021 3:27:21 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 21, 2021 3:30:06 PM
Time Spent: 00:02:44
IP Address: 23.122.58.176

Page 1

Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name:	Elena Marcheschi
City/Town:	Chicago
State:	IL
ZIP:	60613-2743

Q2

Tell us which meeting you wish to be recorded as a witness. If you don't know the meeting or date, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar. Please fill out a separate form for each meeting at which you wish to speak.

**Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee
Public Hearing 5/24/2021 230p**

Q3

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21-0565

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What do you want to do?

REGISTER IN FAVOR of a specific item (You may add written comments below)

Q5

Written Statement? You can type or copy/paste any written statement you want included in the meeting record here. If this is not enough space, or you have other attachments for distribution, please email them to cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov

I will email my written comments as instructed, thank you.

Q6

Submitting written testimony only

Please Indicate if you are only submitting written testimony or if you wish to address the Committee live (virtually) at the meeting.

Q7

If requesting to address the Committee live (virtually), please provide an email address and phone number (This is required to receive and an invitation to the virtual meeting).

Email Address

emarchesch@aol.com

Phone Number

7734432402
