



**Board of Commissioners of Cook County
Minutes of the Environment and Sustainability Committee**

11:30 AM

Wednesday, January 14, 2026

**Cook County Building, Board Room,
118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois**

ATTENDANCE

Present: Degnen, Morita, Britton, Miller, K. Morrison, Trevor and Vásquez (7)

A motion was made by Commissioner Britton, seconded by Commissioner Trevor, to allow for remote participation in meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Degnen, Morita, Britton, Miller, K. Morrison, Trevor and Vásquez (7)

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Chairwoman Degnen asked the Secretary to the Board to call upon the registered public speakers, in accordance with Cook County Code.

1) George Blakemore - Concerned Citizen

26-0566

COMMITTEE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the meeting of 09/17/2025.

A motion was made by Commissioner Britton, seconded by Commissioner Trevor, to approve 26-0566. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Degnen, Morita, Britton, Miller, K. Morrison, Trevor and Vásquez (7)

26-0019

Presented by: SUZANNE MALEC-MCKENNA, Director, Department of Environment and Sustainability

Sponsored by: FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, BILL LOWRY, DR. KISHA E. McCASKILL, STANLEY MOORE, JOSINA MORITA, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, MICHAEL SCOTT JR., TARA S. STAMPS, MAGGIE TREVOR, JESSICA VÁSQUEZ and DONNA MILLER, Cook County Board Of Commissioners

REPORT

Department: Department of Environment and Sustainability

Report Title: Cook County Department of Environment and Sustainability, Environmental Justice Policy Framework

Report Period: 2025 - 2026

Summary: The Department of Environment and Sustainability (DES), on behalf of the Offices Under the President, presents the Environmental Justice (EJ) Policy Framework, a collection of strategies to redress historical and present injustices and promote environmental equity throughout Cook County. This policy will inform OUP decision-making, enabling proactive, community-led solutions for the future. The EJ Policy Framework was co-created by an Internal Working Group made up of representatives across multiple County departments and agencies, and a Community Advisory Committee, following DES's engagement with Cook County residents through surveys, town halls and public input. It is intended to be a living document maintained by DES that will be accessed regularly and reviewed annually in the second quarter of each fiscal year and refined as needed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Britton, seconded by Commissioner Vásquez, to receive and file 26-0019. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Degnen, Morita, Britton, Trevor and Vásquez (5)

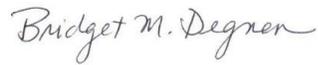
Absent: Miller and K. Morrison (2)

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Vásquez, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Degnen, Morita, Britton, Miller, K. Morrison, Trevor and Vásquez (7)

Respectfully submitted,



Chairwoman



Secretary

A complete record of this meeting is available at <https://cook-county.legistar.com>.