



Board of Commissioners of Cook County

Audit Committee

Wednesday, June 28, 2023

10:30 AM

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

NOTICE AND AGENDA

There will be a meeting of the Committee or Subcommittee of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County at the date, time and location listed above to consider the following:

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Authorization as a public speaker shall only be granted to those individuals who have registered to speak, with the Secretary, 24 hours in advance of the meeting. To register as a public speaker, go to the meeting details page for this meeting at <https://cook-county.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx> to find a registration link. Duly authorized public speakers may speak live from the County Board Room at 118 N. Clark Street, 5th Floor, Chicago, IL or be sent a link to virtually attend the meeting and will be called upon to deliver testimony at a time specified in the meeting agenda. Authorized public speakers who are not present during the specified time for public testimony will forfeit their allotted time to speak at the meeting. Public testimony must not exceed three minutes; the Secretary will keep track of the time and advise when the time for public testimony has expired. After each speaker has completed their statement, they will be removed from the meeting. Once removed, you will still be able to follow the proceedings for that day at:

<https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service/watch-live-board-proceedings> or in a viewing area at 69 W. Washington Street, 22nd Floor Conference Room F, Chicago, IL. Persons authorized to provide public testimony shall not use vulgar, abusive, or otherwise inappropriate language when addressing the Board; failure to act appropriately; failure to speak to an item that is germane to the meeting, or failure to adhere to the time requirements may result in expulsion from the meeting and/or disqualify the person from providing future testimony. Written comments will not be read aloud at the meeting, but will be posted on the meeting page and made a part of the meeting record.

23-3478

COMMITTEE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the meeting of 04/26/2023

[23-2739](#)

Sponsored by: BRIDGET GAINER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, ALMA E. ANAYA, DONNA MILLER, JOSINA MORITA, FRANK J. AGUILAR, MONICA GORDON, ANTHONY J. QUEZADA and MAGGIE TREVOR, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS EQUIP FOR EQUALITY'S RECENT REPORT ON THE CONDITIONS INSIDE THE COOK COUNTY JUVENILE TEMPORARY DETENTION CENTER

WHEREAS, the Juvenile Temporary Detention Center ("JTDC") is the juvenile detention facility for Cook County; and

WHEREAS, the children in the JTDC are some of the most vulnerable youth in Cook County, many having experienced significant trauma and violence as part of their daily existence; and

WHEREAS, the JTDC should provide a safe, secure environment with educational programming and mental health supports for youth awaiting adjudication of their cases; and

WHEREAS, in the past year, reports on the conditions of the JTDC have been released by the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice ("IDJJ"); the Blue Ribbon Committee ("BRC"); and Equip for Equality ("EFE"); and

WHEREAS, the IDJJ report noted concern with the JTDC's room-confinement practices, which do not comply with the state of Illinois's minimum standard that "room confinement may be used only as a temporary response to behavior that threatens the safety of youth and others"; and

WHEREAS, the BRC report concluded that the JTDC over-relies on room confinement; and

WHEREAS, the EFE report further outlined concerns in four primary categories: special education services, "behavioral modification" and discipline systems, restraint practices, and inadequate facility accessibility; and

WHEREAS, these reports also call for increased transparency and reporting mechanisms of incidents inside the JTDC; and

WHEREAS, in response to these reports, both the Office of the Chief Judge and the Office of the President convened the Implementation Committee and the Reimagining Juvenile Detention group respectively to address these concerns. In 2022, the Implementation Committee implemented the following improvements at the JTDC: limiting all room confinements to thirty minutes, moving back bedtimes by one hour, creating more programming during evening hours, and reporting of total resident

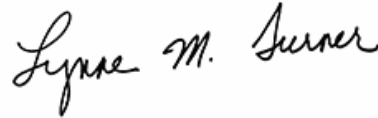
population, including a breakdown of the population by age, gender, race, and whether the cases are in juvenile or criminal court; and,

WHEREAS, despite these changes, the reports raise concerns that warrant further discussion given the vulnerability of the JTDC's residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners request a convening of the Audit Committee to conduct a hearing regarding these reports, the progress made by the Office of the Chief Judge, JTDC staff, the Implementation Committee, and the Reimagining Juvenile Detention group to implement positive changes at the JTDC, and their goals for future improvements; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board requests that the hearing feature presentations of the EFE report by its authors. The Board also requests that the Chief Judge of the Cook County Circuit Court, the Implementation Committee, JTDC staff, and subject-matter experts from the JTDC Advisory Board appear before the Committee.

Legislative History : 4/27/23 - Board of Commissioners - refer to the Audit Committee



Secretary

Chair: Degnen

Vice-Chair: S. Morrision

Members: Committee of the Whole