



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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

New Items Agenda

Thursday, October 19, 2023, 10:00 AM

Fourth Set

[23-5429](#)

Sponsored by: SEAN M. MORRISON, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION TO ADDRESS THE DEADLY FENTANYL EPIDEMIC

WHEREAS, drug overdose or poisoning is the leading cause of death for Americans aged 18-45; and

WHEREAS, nearly 70% of those deaths are due to Opioids, including Fentanyl; and

WHEREAS, Fentanyl is up to 50 times more potent than heroin and 100 times more potent than Morphine; and

WHEREAS, more than 91% of Opioid overdose deaths involved Fentanyl; and

WHEREAS, the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office has confirmed 2,000 Opioid overdose deaths for 2022, breaking the previous record of 1,935 set in 2021; and

WHEREAS, Cook County has had two consecutive years of record high Opioid/Fentanyl overdose deaths; and

WHEREAS, just over 70% of the overdose deaths were in Chicago; and

WHEREAS, approximately 78% of the Opioid overdose deaths are male, African Americans make up 56% of the deaths, Latinos account for just under 15% and whites constitute 29% of the deaths; and

WHEREAS, these numbers and statistics are staggering and alarming for countless residents in Cook County and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) says that the majority of Fentanyl is sourced from China and trafficked into the U.S. by the Mexican Sinaloa and Jalisco cartels; and

WHEREAS, the current federal border policy ignores and underestimates the impact of the Fentanyl epidemic on the front line; and

WHEREAS, the DEA says it seized enough deadly Fentanyl in 2022 to kill every American multiple times over; and

WHEREAS, the federal government must tighten the entry points at our borders and crack down on the external producers of this deadly drug; and

WHEREAS, many of Illinois' elected leaders reduced criminal charges for Fentanyl through the passage of the state's Safe-T Act; and

WHEREAS, current policies are failing as illustrated by the heartbreaking statistics and data. Opioid/Fentanyl death counts will tragically continue to grow without a new rational course of action; and

WHEREAS, if Illinois wants to save lives, then it must reverse course and strengthen its laws against the illegal distribution and sale of Fentanyl; and

WHEREAS, on the local level, we must expand access to comprehensive drug treatment to end this deadly cycle of abuse that is devastating our communities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the time to tackle this deadly epidemic head on is now. The Cook County Board of Commissioners calls for immediate action to be taken by the federal government to properly secure the border to stop the illegal flow of fentanyl into the United States of America.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, copies of this resolution be distributed to Senator Richard Durbin, Senator Tammy Duckworth and the entire Illinois Congressional Delegation, and call upon them to demand President Biden and his administration seek an immediate securing of the U.S. border to stem the dangerous and tragic overflow of Fentanyl into the United States of America.

[23-5444](#)

Sponsored by: ANTHONY J. QUEZADA and ALMA E. ANAYA, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE UNITED AUTO WORKER (UAW) UNION IN THEIR CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS AND STRIKE

WHEREAS, On the 15th of September 2023, the United Auto Workers (UAW) union began a historic workers' strike against the Big Three automobile companies in the United States - Ford, General Motors, and Stellantis; and

WHEREAS, The UAW is demanding that the Big Three eliminate the two-tier system for wages and benefits between newer and veteran employees, increase wages, restore the cost of living adjustment (COLA) metric, defined benefit pension for all workers, re-establish retiree medical benefits, right to strike over plant closures and a working family protection program that supports UAW members and their families in the event of one, end the abuse and over-reliance of temporary workers, more paid time off, and a significant increase in retiree pay; and

WHEREAS, The UAW stated that this labor strike is part of a larger effort for economic justice against the upper echelon of society, who have seen major financial gains the past couple of decades while working-class wages have stagnated; and

WHEREAS, The UAW is demanding a fairer share of the profits that auto workers generate, as executive pay has increased 40% during the life of the previous contract while worker pay has only increased by 6%; and

WHEREAS, UAW workers made large concessions during the 2007-2008 economic recession, which included the surrender of the COLA metric that left their wages vulnerable to inflation, to support the companies employing their members, and the current demands represent a long-overdue redressal of said concessions; and

WHEREAS, 4,600 workers with UAW Local 551 at the Chicago Ford Assembly plant at 12600 S. Torrence Avenue on the South Side of the City of Chicago in Cook County recently joined the strike. The plant produces the Ford Explorer, Lincoln Aviator SUV, and the Police Interceptor SUV - the nation's top-selling police vehicle; and

WHEREAS, according to the Chicago UAW Local 551, many workers have taken on second and third jobs to make a livable wage, negatively affecting the whole community. The community relies on the workers, and everything they do is fed back to the local community; since they do not get paid a living wage, they find it difficult to support their small businesses.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners and members of the Board of Commissioners, do hereby stand in solidarity with United Auto Workers in Cook County and across the country in their strike for a fair contract; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be sent to the UAW International Headquarters and to UAW Local 551.

[23-5456](#)

Sponsored by: DENNIS DEER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

PROPOSED RESOLUTION FOR FOOD IS MEDICINE

WHEREAS, food plays a significant role in preventing, developing or resolving chronic diseases; and

WHEREAS, obesity-related conditions, including heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes, and certain cancers are among the leading causes of preventable, premature death; and

WHEREAS, the rate of adult obesity in the United States is 42.4 percent, an increase of 26 percent since 2008; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, 31.4 percent of suburban Cook County adult residents had obesity, an increase of

more than 10 percent in the past ten years; and

WHEREAS, obesity rates are higher among Black and Hispanic suburban Cook County residents than among White and Asian residents; and

WHEREAS, one in two adults in the United States has diabetes or pre-diabetes, and more than 10 percent of suburban Cook County adults have been diagnosed with diabetes; and

WHEREAS, poor nutrition causes an estimated \$1.1 trillion in economic losses each year due to excess healthcare spending and lost productivity; and

WHEREAS, food insecurity, defined as the lack of consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life, affects approximately 33.8 million people in the United States and is linked to lower food quality and a higher probability of chronic disease diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, in the Hunger in Our Community Status Report (2021), the Greater Chicago Food Depository projected that over 613,000 Cook County residents live in food insecure households; and

WHEREAS, the Hunger in Our Community Status Report further found that Cook County households with children experience higher rates of food insecurity, especially households of color; and

WHEREAS, data in Cook County Department of Public Health's WePLAN 2025, the region's community health assessment and improvement plan, indicate that the south and west suburbs of Cook County share the greatest burden of low income and low food access, with over 35 percent of the population in these areas living in tracts that are either low income or low food access; and

WHEREAS, The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated chronic disease disparities and has increased food insecurity in many Cook County households, with rates of food insecurity increasing by 19 percent overall and by 37 percent in Black households; and

WHEREAS, diet-related diseases like diabetes, obesity and hypertension have contributed to an estimated 723,000 excess deaths from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, food as medicine is a concept that recognizes the importance of access to high-quality food in the management and prevention of chronic disease and obesity; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Cook County led by the Cook County Board President and the County Board of Commissioners, in collaboration with the Cook County Health and the Cook County Department of Public Health, will work together to promote the importance of "proper nutrition" and "healthy eating" for the residents Cook County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Cook County will (1) create a "Food is Medicine" ad campaign expressing the importance of quality food and proper nutrition as essential items for a healthy life. (2)

Build upon the existing healthy food programs throughout Cook County Health System, including the Cook County Department of Public Health, and County Care, that tracks, quality health outcomes for all who use Cook County Health services and beyond; (3) Under the office of Equity & Inclusion within Cook County Health to create a Food Security Program Manager that prioritizes equitable food security impact on health outcomes for Cook County;(4) Engage organizations that provide fresh produce for “Food is Medicine” programming.; (5) Creation of a “Food as Medicine” educational interactive website for public education around food as medicine; (6) creation of a “Food Passport” program in partnership with local restaurants in Cook County that promotes healthy eating.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Board hereby supports the efforts to address obesity, healthy food access and chronic illness through healthy eating campaigns.

[23-3726](#)

Presented by: ZAHRA ALI, Chief Administrative Officer, Bureau of Administration

PROPOSED AGREEMENT AMENDMENT

Department(s): Bureau of Administration, Research Operations and Innovation (“ROI”)

Other Part(ies): University of Chicago on behalf of the Applied Data Fellowship (“ADF”) within its Harris School of Public Policy, Chicago, Illinois

Request: Authorization to extend for two (2) years, and increase by \$1,575,000.00 an interagency agreement

Good(s) or Service(s): Professional Services

Agreement period: 8/1/2022 - 11/30/2023 - 11/30/2023, 11/1/2023 - 11/30/2025

Fiscal Impact: Up to \$787,500.00 per year for a total possible impact of \$1,575,000.00 over two(2) years

Accounts: 11000.1002.14940.520830; 11000.1032.10155.520830; 11000.1031.10155.520830;
11100.1205.33915.520830; 11286.1027.60162.520830; 11000.1013.10155.520830;
11900.1013.54325.520830

Agreement Number(s): n/a

Summary: This Agreement between Cook County Bureau of Administration and the University of Chicago, on behalf of the Applied Data Fellows program (“ADF”) within the Harris School of Public Policy, will allow Cook County to amplify its social impact by providing for additional data analysis and of County operations and programs. This Agreement allows for up to nine (9) Fellows annually to embed within departments. The University of Chicago selects Fellows with an MA, BA, or comparable degree in computational science, public policy, data analytics, or similar area of study for this program. The annual

fiscal impact is up to \$787,500.00 for a total fiscal impact of \$1,575,000.00. Fellows for the 2023-2024 year will be placed within the Bureau of Economic Development, Bureau of Human Resources (pending), Justice Advisory Council, Bureau of Asset Management, and Department of Human Rights and Ethics.

[23-5370](#)

Presented by: SUSAN CAMPBELL, Director, Department of Planning and Development

PROPOSED HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

Department: Planning and Development

Other Part(ies): McGaw YMCA, Evanston,

Request: Respectfully requesting the Board consider approval of HOME Investment Partnership Program Funds in the amount of \$4,500,000.00 (30-year term, 0% interest rate, 1st position HOME loan) that will be used for the renovation of the 156-unit Single Room Occupancy YMCA residence located at 100 Grove, Evanston, IL.

Total Development Cost: \$17,636,000.00

Project Loan Amount: \$4,500,000.00

Fiscal Impact: \$4,500,000.00

Account(s): 11900-1013-53638-580170

Summary: McGaw YMCA has requested \$4,500,000 in Home Investment Partnership (HOME) funds for the rehabilitation of the existing historic YMCA residential facility in Evanston, IL. The loan has a thirty-year term, 0% permanent loan rate and is fully deferred until maturity. The rehabilitation funding will help update mechanical systems, create social spaces, renovate and privatize bath facilities and update residential units and furnishings, extending the life of 156 units for men transitioning to housing stability.

The renovation of the Men's residences will include upgrading the bathing facilities to include privatizing bathing areas, inclusion of social rooms at the residence levels, upgrade to the mechanical systems, remodeling and refurnishing the single room occupancy units, and introducing a new entry for the residences separate from the YMCA recreational facility.

The McGaw YMCA facility dates to 1929. YMCA consolidated operations at the subject location, 1000 Grove Street, in 1968 and began expanding services to support the long term needs of men transitioning through the YMCA. Generally, the YMCA became a transitional facility supporting Men who were transitioning to permanent housing opportunities versus long-term stay at the YMCA. Achieving permanent residency requires the men to identify personal obstacles and goals, set a plan and undertake a supportive services plan to gain economic, mental, and physical health to support.

The McGaw YMCA has a unique operating philosophy under which the Men who reside there, pay for the domiciling, making the operations self-sufficient, limiting the need for housing vouchers or subsidies for the operations. McGaw initially leases each unit on a week-to-week basis. The McGaw Residence Program Team works with the residents to achieve employment by supporting resume development, wardrobe resources and interview preparation, while also working to achieve health resource, wellness programs, financial literacy, and access to public benefits where eligible. This comprehensive rebuilding and support of their residents are key to the success and independence of the residents both while living at McGaw and upon transition to their permanent housing choices.

The subject request finances the renovation of the YMCA residential facility only and represents the first major renovation in the 95-year history of the residential building. The renovation is projected to start in Spring 2024, with a 14-month completion.

McGaw YMCA has completed a rehabilitation scope and construction drawings outlining \$14.1 million in Capital improvements, Resident and Program Space renovations, Furnishings and introduction of new lobby and circulation to the Residences.

McGaw has undertaken a Capital Campaign for a significant portion of the rehabilitation that will be finalized upon receipt of commitments including the subject that meet the investment floor requirement of its major donors. Other capital has been committed by the Federal Government, the City of Evanston, and initial donors to complete the capital requirements of the renovation. The County is only contributing approximately 24% of the development costs obtaining a 3:1 ratio on use of funds. Overall renovation is less than \$125K per residence which is considerably less than the cost to build new which comes in near \$300K per residence in like facilities, say PSH or affordable rental units.