



Board of Commissioners of Cook County

Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Monday, June 21, 2021

**1:00 PM
Public Hearing**

Virtual Meeting

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 virtual public speaker shall only be granted to those individuals who have submitted in writing, their name, email address, phone number, subject matter, and organization (if any) to the Secretary 24 hours in advance of the meeting. Duly authorized virtual public speakers shall 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> 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.

[21-3149](#)

Sponsored by: LARRY SUFFREDIN, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, LUIS ARROYO JR, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRANDON JOHNSON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, PETER N. SILVESTRI, BRIDGET GAINER, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON and DEBORAH SIMS, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A HEARING INTO THE POLICIES AND PRACTICES OF THE COUNTY TO PROTECT THE CIVIL RIGHTS OF IMMIGRANTS AND BIPOC RESIDENTS AND VISITORS WITHIN COOK COUNTY

WHEREAS, Cook County has always been home to people from many racial and ethnic backgrounds. With over one million immigrants, Cook County has the largest concentration of foreign-born residents in the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Cook County has benefitted culturally, socially, and economically from the diversity of its residents; and

WHEREAS, resolution 07-R-240 declared Cook County a Fair and Equal County for Immigrants, ensuring equal access to essential benefits and opportunities; and

WHEREAS, on January 17, 2017, in Item No. 17-0724, Cook County reaffirmed its commitment to being a Fair and Equal County for all immigrants, refugees, and their families; and committed to energetically oppose any efforts that conflicted with those values or reversed critical protections to immigrants, refugees, and their families; and

WHEREAS, the national political climate over the past four years has produced fear and anxiety among many Cook County residents, particularly among people of color, immigrants, Muslims, Jews, and members of the LGBTQ community; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has also perpetrated xenophobia towards the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. Over the course of approximately a year during the pandemic, 3,800 anti-Asian racist incidents such as verbal harassment, shunning, physical assault, and civil rights violations were reported across the country. Out of those incidents, nearly 68% were towards AAPI women; and

WHEREAS, recent events within Cook County have demonstrated that there has been an increase in harassment and violence against diverse communities; and

WHEREAS, Cook County condemns any harassment and/or violence towards any resident and remains committed to: (1) protecting the civil rights of all its residents regardless of race or ethnicity, immigration status, disability/ability, religion, age, gender identity, or sexual orientation; (2) working toward equity and inclusion; and (3) ensuring that all residents of Cook County and visitors feel welcome and safe.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cook County Legislative and Intergovernmental Relations Committee hold a hearing for County officials to report on current policies and practices, and for input from our residents concerning those policies as well as best practices for protecting the civil rights of our residents and visitors at Cook County.

Legislative History: 5/13/21 Board of Commissioners refer to the Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations



Secretary

Chairman: Suffredin
Vice-Chairman: Britton
Members: Committee of the Whole