



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY
Cook County Building, Board Room, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois

New Items Agenda

for the

Meeting of the Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, June 10, 2015, 11:00 AM

15-3433

Sponsored by: STANLEY MOORE, County Commissioner

This item was deferred at the 5/20/2015 Board meeting.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

URGING THE ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO CREATE LEGISLATION, AND THE GOVERNOR TO APPROVE FUNDING SUPPORT FOR THE 2020 DECENNIAL CENSUS, INCLUDING POSSIBLE METHODS AND PROCEDURES TESTS IN COOK COUNTY DURING THE NEXT THREE YEARS THAT WILL LEAD TO IMPROVED OPERATIONAL AND PROMOTIONAL APPROACHES TO EDUCATE, INFORM, AND ENCOURAGE THE COOPERATION OF COOK COUNTY RESIDENTS, AND ULTIMATELY ALL ILLINOIS RESIDENTS TO COMPLETE THEIR CENSUS QUESTIONNAIRE AND RETURN IT TO THE CENSUS BUREAU BY CENSUS DAY, APRIL 1, 2020.

WHEREAS, the U.S. Constitution, Article 1, Section 2, requires an enumeration of the population every ten years to apportion congressional representation among the states, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 141 of Title 13 of the United States Code, the next federal decennial census of the population will be taken on the first day of April, 2020, and

WHEREAS, a complete and accurate count of Cook County and Illinois population is essential to the County and the State, because the census count determines congressional representation, state redistricting, federal formula grant allocations and the distribution of state subvention funds for an entire decade until the next decennial census is taken, and

WHEREAS, the number of Illinois representatives serving in the House of Representatives, and locally elected officials serving in the State General Assembly, county and local elective positions, are determined by the complete enumeration of the state population, and

WHEREAS, since the 1960 Census, the State of Illinois has lost a total of 6 seats in the House of Representatives, losing seats in each of the past 5 decades, and

WHEREAS, a complete and accurate census count ensures that the particular priorities of Cook County and Illinois are properly represented at all federal, state, and local levels, and

WHEREAS, the census count of Illinois resident population and detailed household information from the American Community Survey (ACS) determines the state's portion of more than 400 billion dollars of Federal funds to the 50 states each year on more than 140 Federal programs, and

WHEREAS, there are several federal programs benefiting Cook County, and Illinois that use census enumerations and population numbers as part of their funding formulas, including formulas for

education, health, transportation, and human services programs, and

WHEREAS, while the U.S. Census Bureau will endeavor to count every person in the nation, many states, as they have done in the past, will allocate state funds to carry out a multi-cultural, multi-lingual, multi-media outreach campaign to increase individual state mail-back response rates, and encourage the involvement of every resident, and

WHEREAS, in the 2000 and 2010 Censuses, Cook County organized a strong and effective Census Complete Count Committee to focus the County's elected officials, faith organizations, and a wide range of business and community leadership in promotion and support of an accurate and complete count of its population, and

WHEREAS, over the next three years the Census Bureau will conduct local tests, including potential operations tests in Cook County in 2016, of new concepts, methods, and procedures for improving public cooperation for possible use in the next census in 2020, and

WHEREAS, it is vitally important for Cook County, and Illinois to do everything it can to ensure that every Illinois resident is counted in the upcoming census;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby urge the Illinois General Assembly to pass legislation to become effective immediately:

1. Authorizing the appropriate funds necessary to carry out a broad, state-wide multi-cultural, multi-lingual, multi-media outreach campaign to educate, inform, and encourage the cooperation of every Illinois resident with the 2020 Census, including the authorization of immediate funding to support Census Bureau conduct of potential testing activities in Cook County during 2016, 2017, and 2018;
2. To authorize the Governor to establish a statewide Complete Count Committee, appointing members, as he deems necessary who shall serve without compensation and at the pleasure of the Governor;
3. To ensure that the Committee begin its work immediately, to develop, recommend, and assist in the administration of a census outreach strategy, to participate fully with all preliminary testing conducted within the state in 2016, 2017, and 2018, of new and different methods and procedures for encouraging public cooperation for use in the 2020 federal decennial census of population required by Section 141 of Title 13 of the United States Code.
4. The census outreach strategy shall include, but not be limited to, State agency initiatives to encourage participation in the 2020 Census, the establishment and support of school-based outreach programs, partnerships with non-profit community-based organizations, and a multi-lingual, multi-media campaign designed to ensure an accurate and complete count of Illinois population.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of the Resolution be tendered to the Speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives and the President of the Illinois Senate.

15-3835

Sponsored by: STANLEY MOORE, JOHN P. DALEY, DEBORAH SIMS, JOAN PATRICIA MURPHY and JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI, County Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

ILLINOIS CREATE TRANSPORTATION INITIATIVE

WHEREAS, The Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency Program (CREATE) is an innovative intergovernmental partnership between The United States Department of Transportation, the State of Illinois, City of Chicago, Metra, Amtrak, and the Association of American Railroads that will significantly increase the efficiency of freight and passenger rail service and improve the quality of life throughout the Northeast Illinois region; and

WHEREAS, Northeastern Illinois is the principal rail hub of the United States with one quarter of the nation's freight rail volume traveling through the Chicago region on a daily basis; and

WHEREAS, The current constructed rail infrastructure in Northeastern Illinois region requires additional capacity and efficiency to accommodate the volume of freight, intercity, and commuter rail services; according to a forecast by the Federal Highway Administration's Freight Analysis Framework, over the next 30 years, demand for rail services in the Northeastern Illinois region is expected to double; and

WHEREAS, The CREATE Program's ability to meet the growing need for rail service and achieve its intended objectives to reduce freight rail delays, decrease traffic congestion, reduce air pollution, improve passenger rail service, and enhance public safety is critical to Cook County and will have a significant impact on increasing economic development; and

WHEREAS, The CREATE Program includes 70 critically needed rail and highway infrastructure projects totaling a cost of \$3.8 billion; and

WHEREAS, As of May 2015, 22 CREATE projects have been completed, 10 projects are under construction, 4 projects are in final design phase, 14 projects are in environmental review, and 20 projects are awaiting funding; and

WHEREAS, \$1.2 billion has been received for the CREATE Program and \$2.6 billion in additional funding is needed; and

WHEREAS, The benefits of the CREATE Program is estimated at \$28.3 billion over 30 years after full project completion; and

WHEREAS, Funding the outstanding CREATE Program projects and completing its full implementation will provide short and long term benefits to Cook County that will allow it to strengthen its regional and national economic competitiveness, increase its international trade opportunities, and improve the quality of life of its residents, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Cook County urges the U.S. Congress and the State of Illinois to pass long term sustainable funding bills to continue the critical CREATE Program and provide much needed improvement to Cook County's rail infrastructure; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The President and Board of Commissioners of Cook County affirms its support of the CREATE Partnership's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) VII application for the B-9 and EW-1 projects which encompass projects in Bedford Park, Bridgeview, and Summit, IL; and additionally supports the completion and funding of remaining project in Chicago, Dolton, Evergreen Park, and Maywood.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Cook County supports the CREATE Program mission to complete all the necessary improvements included in the 70 projects that compromise the CREATE Program to achieve national and regional benefits.