

## Attachment 1

Enclosed please find the Department of Emergency Management and Regional Security's (EMRS) response to the four questions posed in relation to Resolution 22-0618.

1. What your respective office, department, and/or bureau did previously to address Violence and crime in Cook County?

The Cook County Department of Emergency Management and Regional Security (EMRS) enhances the safety and security of Cook County and its residents by working to build capacity to prevent, protect against, mitigate the effects of, respond to and recover from all incidents, both human-caused and natural. EMRS is responsible for coordinating the County's response to a large-scale emergency or disaster. On a day-to-day basis, EMRS supports municipalities by providing guidance and coordinating resources as needed, including to suburban law enforcement partners. As EMRS is not a law enforcement entity, the Department has limited authority and ability to assist with addressing violence and crime. If local law enforcement requests assistance from EMRS, it would typically be in the form of equipment requests such as light towers and jersey barriers. In a rapidly evolving and complex incident, such as an active shooter scenario, local law enforcement may request the use of EMRS' Unified Command Vehicle, which is equipped with technology allowing for enhanced incident coordination. EMRS maintains strong relationships with municipal law enforcement partners, which may potentially be leveraged to support violence prevention programs.

2. What does your respective office, department and/or bureau currently do to address violence and crime, specifically the recent surges in gun-related violence and carjackings, in Cook County?

As a non-law enforcement entity, EMRS has had limited involvement in addressing the recent surges in violence addressed in the resolution aside from providing assistance at the request of individual jurisdictions as addressed above.

3. How has your respective office, department, and/or bureau previously collaborated with other County offices, departments, and/or bureaus? And does it continue its collaboration?

EMRS is a member of the Safe and Thriving policy group, which is one of six Policy Priorities under President Preckwinkle's Five-Year Strategic Plan. EMRS coordinates with the other participants of the Safe and Thriving Policy Priority to advance the Objectives under the Safe and Thriving Goal. EMRS also served as the County fiscal agent of Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program funds, which provides federal funding for criminal justice projects, including violence prevention programs. Over the past several years, EMRS made a concerted effort to increase the awards to community-based organizations working with justice-impacted populations, including a pre-apprentice carpentry program with the Chicagoland Prison Outreach, reentry programming with the Haymarket Center, and Leave No Veterans Behind. Going forward, the Justice Advisory Council will assume responsibility for the allocation of JAG funds (from FY21 onward).

4. What resources does your respective office, department, and/or bureau need to assist in combating the surge in violent crime and support your continued efforts?

EMRS seeks to create a Whole Community Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention Academy, which would provide joint training to community and law enforcement members to equip them with the knowledge and skills to understand and manage the impacts that implicit biases have on interactions. Additionally, these trainings will educate participants on the overt signs of radicalization and the tools available to counter such threats. The proposed training program will increase community members' confidence in sharing critical information with police to help reduce incidents of targeted violence while simultaneously encouraging the development of trusting relationships between communities and law enforcement. EMRS applied for 2021 Department of Homeland Security, Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention (TVTP) funding in the amount of \$746,685.76 but was not awarded funding. EMRS intends to apply for additional TVP funding for this program and is currently assessing the eligibility of Urban Area Security Initiative funds to support a pilot of this program.