



# Chicago Park District

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### Public Hearing

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Wednesday, November 19, 2025

8:30 AM

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**PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING**  
**Chicago Park District Administration Building**  
**4830 South Western Avenue,**  
**Chicago, IL 60609**

In accordance with the provisions of an Act of the General Assembly of the State of Illinois, 70 ILCS 1505/17 et seq., and 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq., PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that a PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING THE PROPOSED 2026 OPERATING BUDGET REPORT and the TENTATIVE APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE of the Chicago Park District will be held on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 8:30 A.M. at the Chicago Park District Administration Building (Park 596) located at 4830 South Western Avenue, Chicago, IL 60609.

Roll Call  
Public Hearing  
Adjournment

#### **By order of President Marlon Everett**

In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. Section 12101 et seq.), the Chicago Park District does not discriminate on the basis of disability in employment or admission/access to programs and activities.

Any person with a disability who desires special accommodations or the services of a sign language interpreter in order to attend a meeting of the Chicago Park District Board of Commissioners, should contact Disability Policy Officer, Larry Labiak, 504 Compliance Officer, 4830 South Western Avenue, Chicago, IL 60609, at 312/742-5097 or [accessibility@chicagoparkdistrict.com](mailto:accessibility@chicagoparkdistrict.com) at least 72 hours before the Board Meeting.

**Dr. Marlon Everett**  
**President**

**Sarah Gelder**  
**Secretary**

[25-1196-111](#)[9](#)

## 2026 PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET REPORT AND TENTATIVE APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

**Sponsors:** Chief Financial Officer and Budget and Management

**Indexes:** Budget-Appropriation Ordinance

**Attachments:** [2026 Budget Recommendations & Appropriation Ordinance](#)

### Pledge of Allegiance

### Roll Call

**A Roll Call was made and the following Commissioners were found to be in attendance:**

**Present:** 5 - Commissioner Coya Paz Brownrigg, President Marlon Everett, Commissioner Philip Jackson, Commissioner Sean Garrett, and Commissioner Robert Castaneda  
**Absent:** 2 - Vice President Modesto Valle, and Commissioner Sharon Bush

### 1. PRESENTATION FROM THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT & CEO

Carlos Ramirez-Rosa, General Superintendent and CEO, gave a presentation on the strategic vision behind the 2026 Chicago Park District Budget Recommendations.

The Secretary stated for the record that Vice President Valle joined the Hearing during the Presentation on the 2026 Budget Recommendations.

**Present:** 6 - Vice President Modesto Valle, Commissioner Coya Paz Brownrigg, President Marlon Everett, Commissioner Philip Jackson, Commissioner Sean Garrett, and Commissioner Robert Castaneda  
**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Sharon Bush

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

17th Ward Alderman, David Moore, acknowledged positive impacts of existing partnerships and expressed gratitude and community impacts of the proposed field house construction at Ogden Park.

The following members of the public addressed the Commissioners:

1. Leslie Recht (Addressed concerns with the Grant Park curfew, programming defect, and environmental deterioration due to large-scale events. The speaker requested construction of a restroom on the south end of Grant Park, Park Supervisor salary increase, and a finalized capital improvement plan)
2. May Toy (Addressed concerns with community engagement around annual Budget Recommendations and equity of funding allocations between parks)
3. Ray Walsh (Requested health care benefits for hourly, year-round employees)
4. Kenneth Newman (Acknowledged funding allocation toward Special Recreation initiatives and requested lighting and resurfacing improvements at various athletic facilities)

5. Phil McGrath (Addressed concerns around funding allocations related to contracts with external vendors)

Natassia Simmons registered to speak but was unavailable for comment.

The Secretary stated for the record that no Written Testimonies were received.

### 3. ADJOURNED

A motion was made by Commissioner Castaneda, seconded by Commissioner Paz-Brownrigg, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Modesto Valle, Coya Paz Brownrigg, Marlon Everett, Philip Jackson, Sean Garrett and Robert Castaneda

**Absent:** 1 - Sharon Bush