COMMUNITY OVERSIGHT OF POLICING: THE GAPA ORDINANCE

The GAPA ordinance creates
• 1 city-wide, civilian-led oversight body: the Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability, and
• 22 elected District Councils, one in each police district.

Community Commission for Public Safety & Accountability:
• 7 civilian Commissioners with relevant qualifications
• serve 4-year terms

The Commission has 4 key powers:
1. help select key leaders: Police Superintendent, COPA Chief, and Police Board members;
2. establish goals for CPD, COPA, and the Police Board and evaluate process
3. develop, review, and approve CPD and COPA policy
4. amplify community voice and engagement.

COMMISSION SELECTION PROCESS:

Chicagans vote and elect...

Each District Council selects 1 member to serve on the Nominating Committee.

→ The Nominating Committee decides which candidates to present to the Mayor to appoint, subject to City Council approval...

...to serve as one of 7 Commissioners on the citywide Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability.

District Councils in each police district will have
3 elected members will
• create and carry out programs & initiatives to address community concerns and priorities
• nominate Commissioners and inform Commission priorities.

DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTIONS:
Regular elections, overseen by Board of Elections:
• first election in Nov. 2020,
• then starting in 2023, all in February municipal elections
The GAPA ordinance creates a two-level system for civilian police oversight, with (1) a citywide Commission and then (2) a District Council in each police district:

1. **Community Commission for Public Safety & Accountability**
   - 7 civilian Commissioners with relevant qualifications serving staggered 4-year terms
   - Citywide Commission has 4 key powers:
     - help select key leaders: Police Superintendent, COPA Chief, and Police Board members
     - establish goals for CPD, COPA, and the Police Board and evaluate process
     - develop, review, and approve CPD and COPA policy
     - amplify community voice and engagement.

2. **District Councils in each of 22 police districts**
   - 3 elected members in each district will
     - develop and implement programs & initiatives to address community concerns and priorities; and
     - nominate Commissioners and inform Commission priorities.

**Now Let’s Zoom In: Elected District Council Members**

**Why are District Councils transformational?**

Because they
- create a new and different kind of space that is community owned and run, not controlled by CPD or the City
- welcome and amplify the voices of people who have not been included in CPD-controlled policing spaces
- channel community concerns and priorities to the citywide oversight Commission, for which District Council members nominate Commissioners

**What do District Council members do?**

- work with their local police district to build trust, and to create and carry out community initiatives, including restorative justice programs
- pick who is on the citywide Commission that exercise strong oversight powers
- raise community concerns to the citywide Commission to address with COPA, CPD, and the Police Board
- shape and inform Commission priorities in police policy and accountability

**How many members are there? How are they picked?**

- 3 elected District Council Members in each police district
- elected by the residents of the police district for four-year terms
- with the first elections in Nov. 2020
So you want to be an elected District Council member...

Why Should I Run for District Council?

Do you
• care deeply about making sure that community priorities drive policing programs and initiatives in your community?
• think it’s critical to create a space that welcomes and amplifies the voices of people who have not been included in CPD-controlled policing spaces?
• have strong connections with your neighbors and relationships in your neighborhood?

Do I Meet the Requirements?

Are you
• at least 18 years old, or will be by January 11, 2021?
• a resident of the district you’re running in?
• registered to vote in the district you’re running in?

AND you
• don’t have a felony record; and
• have not been an employee of CPD, IPRA, COPA, or the Police Board in the last 3 years.

If you answered yes to these questions, YOU should run for District Council!

What do I have to do to get on the ballot?

• file a statement of candidacy and other forms with the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners;
• collect the required number of signatures;
• and submit the petition for nomination with those signatures by the require deadline.

IMPORTANT DATES:
• First day to start circulating nominating petitions: Tuesday, March 24, 2020.
• First day to file nomination papers: Monday, June 15, 2020
• Last day to file nomination papers: Monday, June 22, 2020
• Election Day: Tuesday, November 3, 2020

WANT MORE INFORMATION?