



# City of Chicago



R2017-205

## Office of the City Clerk Document Tracking Sheet

**Meeting Date:** 3/29/2017

**Sponsor(s):** Hopkins (2)  
Burke (14)  
Reboyras (30)  
Cochran (20)  
Mitts (37)  
Mitchell (7)

**Type:** Resolution

**Title:** Call for hearing(s) on status of Project Safe Neighborhoods program

**Committee(s) Assignment:** Committee on Public Safety

Public  
Safety

## RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, Project Safe Neighborhoods was established in 2001; and

**WHEREAS**, Project Safe Neighborhoods expanded upon strategies used in Boston's Operation Ceasefire, known as the "Boston Miracle," and in Richmond, Virginia's Project Exile, reported to have reduced gun homicides by 40% from 1997 to 1998; and

**WHEREAS**, Project Safe Neighborhoods is part of a nationwide federally funded initiative designed to bring federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies together to produce a comprehensive and strategic approach to reducing gun crime; and

**WHEREAS**, Project Safe Neighborhoods is Chicago based; and

**WHEREAS**, Project Safe Neighborhoods was intended to involve a multiagency task force of members from law enforcement and local community agencies, including representatives from the Chicago Police Department, the Cook County Sheriff's Office, the Cook County State's Attorney's Office, the Illinois Department of Corrections, the Cook County Department of Probation, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Illinois, the Bureau of Tobacco, Alcohol, Firearms and Explosives, the Federal Bureau of Investigations, the City of Chicago Corporation Counsel, the Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy, and the Chicago Crime Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, According to the study conducted by Papachristos, Meares, and Fagan (2007), Project Safe Neighborhoods treatment districts experienced a dramatic 37% drop in quarterly homicide rates during the observation periods; and

**WHEREAS**, In 2016, the Department of Justice awarded grants totaling \$5.7 million to create safer neighborhoods under the 2016 Violent Gang and Gun Crime Reduction (Project Safe Neighborhoods) Program to recipients in other states; and

**WHEREAS**, The January 13, 2017 Department of Justice investigation of the Chicago Police department confirmed that DOJ is working with the City of Chicago on training and technical assistance; and

**WHEREAS**, The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) announced their intent to transfer approximately 20 agents to Chicago in an effort to "beef up" the federal presence in the city; and

**WHEREAS**, Attorney General Jeff Sessions recently threatened to strip some "sanctuary cities" of coveted Justice Department grants for state and local law enforcement, saying those places that did not comply with a particular federal law on immigration would not be eligible for such funding; and

**WHEREAS**, 2016 was Chicago's most violent year in almost two decades with 4,367 shooting victims and 784 deaths; and

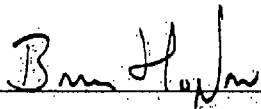
**WHEREAS**, As of February 26, 2017 Chicago already had 511 shooting victims and 102 gun-related deaths; and

**WHEREAS**, Members of the Chicago City Council and the general public may not be aware of the status of Project Safe Neighborhoods and any related collaborative and multi-agency strategy intended to reduce violent crime; and

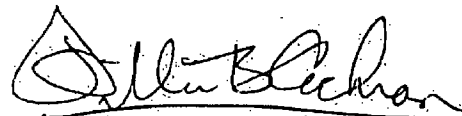
**WHEREAS**, The Committee on Public Safety has jurisdiction over all matters relating to the Chicago Police Department and public safety initiatives; now therefore

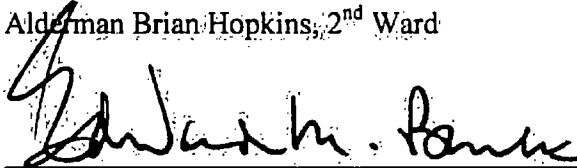
**BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Committee on Public Safety hold a public hearing on the status of Project Safe Neighborhoods and that representatives from the Chicago Police Department, the Cook County Sheriff's Office, the Cook County State's Attorney's Office, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Illinois, the City of Chicago Corporation Counsel, the Chicago Crime Commission, and any other party deemed relevant by the Committee Chair be asked to participate.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Committee on Public Safety hold this meeting prior to the next May 2017 regular meeting of the Chicago City Council.

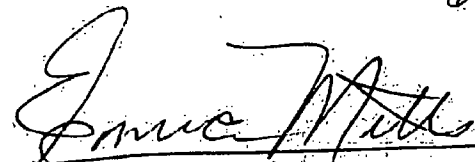


Alderman Brian Hopkins, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward

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6.6.17

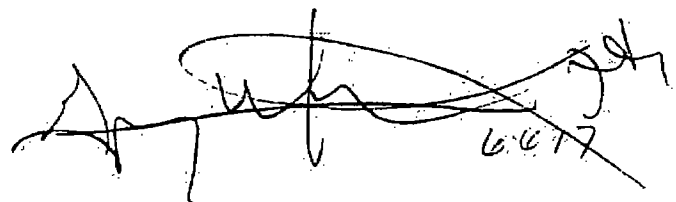


Alderman Edward M. Burke, 14<sup>th</sup> Ward

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6.6.17



Alderman Ariel E. Reboyras, 30<sup>th</sup> Ward

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