



Office of the City Clerk

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Legislation Text

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S U B S I I U I E O R D E R

WHEREAS, The City of Chicago faces increased shooting incidents and homicides, with a 139% increase in reported murders in July 2020 over July 2019, making July 2020 the most violent month the City has seen in 28 years; and

WHEREAS, In order to meet this recurring and intractable challenge, the City must shift its policing focus, and should look to other cities' approaches to similar concerns over public safety and policing, including the variety of community policing strategies and programs that have already been adopted around the country; and

WHEREAS, In 1996, Racine, Wisconsin adopted a unique, but ultimately successful, community policing program called Community Oriented Policing Houses, or "COP Houses", a program which has been adopted by other cities in Wisconsin, including Milwaukee; and

WHEREAS, Under this program, Racine purchased or rehabilitated older residences to serve as community outposts in which police officers were stationed, to help provide long term stabilization of neighborhoods by fostering relationships between officers and community members, improving the quality of life in the neighborhood, reducing crime, and empowering citizens to take back their neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, COP Houses in Racine have often led to improved property maintenance, reduced crime rates by as much as 70%, and improved relationships between communities and the police; and

WHEREAS, The City and the Chicago Police Department should look to other successful community oriented policing programs, including COP House, to keep our communities safe and rebuild relationships with our residents; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:

SECTION 1. The Superintendent of the Chicago Police Department shall review and take all necessary actions, consistent with appropriate safety, security and community policing protocols, to approve a community policing pilot program commonly referred to as a "COP House" in the 5th Police District, subject to: (i) proposal by the sponsor of a budget for the pilot program for a two-year pilot; (ii) the identification of a funding source vetted by and acceptable to the Superintendent and the Budget Director; (iii) a funding stream as to amount and duration; and (iv) the passage of an ordinance appropriating and ensuring the continuity of such funds. Such pilot program shall include a remote CAPS office to help provide an anchor location of safety and stability to reduce violence in the Roseland community area, and shall be funded, in whole or in part, by private funding commitments and corporate sponsorships. Such program may also include provision of a range of other City services to the residents of the Roseland community area.

SECTION 2. This Order shall take effect following due passage and publication.

Alderman, 28th Ward