



CITY OF CHICAGO

ALDERMAN BRIAN HOPKINS, 2ND WARD
CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY
CITY COUNCIL
CITY HALL-ROOM 300
121 NORTH LASALLE STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602

EMAIL: committeeonpublicsafety@cityofchicago.org
Phone: (312)744-6836

Joint Committee on Public Safety and Economic, Capital and Technology Development Monthly Rule 45 Report: September 2024

Pursuant to Rule 45 of the City of Chicago Rules and Order, the **Joint Committee on Public Safety and Economic, Capital, and Technology Development** submits the following monthly report for **September, 2024**.

Date, Time & Location of Meeting:

On September 30, 2024, at 10:00 am, the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Economic, Capital and Technology Development held a meeting in City Hall, Council Chamber, in Chicago, Illinois.

Roll Call was taken and a quorum was established.

Roll Call:

The following committee members were present: Hopkins (2), Villegas (36), Yancy (5), Mosley (21), Hall (6), Mitchell (7), Chico (10), Lee (11), Gutierrez (14), Tabares (23), Sigcho-Lopez (25), Fuentes (26), Taliaferro (29), Cardona (31), Waguespack (32), Sposato (38), Vazquez (40), Napolitano (41), Gardiner (45), Hadden (49).

The following members participated by remote means: LaSpata (1), Cruz (30), Mitts (37), Vazquez (40), Gardiner (45), Silverstein (50).

The following members were absent: Lopez (15), Curtis (18), Reilly (42), Knudsen (43), Martin (47), Manaa-Hoppenworth (48).

Non-members present: Moore (17), Burnett (27), Conway (34).

Public Comment:

There were 4 public comment speakers: Zoe Leigh, Jessica Jackson, Michael Young- Bey, George Blakemore.

The Committee addressed the following items:

1. Subject Matter Hearing: Discussion on technologies that can enhance public safety.

Chairman Hopkins called the meeting to order at 10:55 am. The Chairman instructed protocol to be used in the forum. Chairman Hopkins read out the “Rules of Conduct for Public Meetings.” Roll Call was taken and a quorum was established.

Alderman Hopkins introduces Oak Brook police Sergeant Jason Wood, to provide his testimony on StarChase technology. A short video from CBS News about StarChase technology is played during the hearing. Sergeant Wood continues to provide information on Oak Brook Police Department’s success with StarChase technology.

Alderpersons Sposato, Napolitano, Waguespack, Burnett, Yancy, Lee Taliaferro, Vasquez, Lee, Chico and Fuentes ask Sergeant Wood questions on the technology.

Next, Alderman Hopkins introduces Sergeant Buenrostro, Captain Hajdu and Sergeant Nicholas Orlando to provide testimony on the Chicago Police Department’s Drone Program.

Captain Hajdu discusses the implementation of the drone program after the Drones for First Responders Act was passed. Sergeant Buenrostro discusses the capacities that the drone program is currently utilized for and informs the body that they currently have 3 pilots and 5 drones. Drones have been deployed to special events, concerts (Lollapalooza), and the Democratic National Convention (DNC). Sergeant Buenrostro highlights the need for more drones and pilots to effectively utilize this tool for public safety.

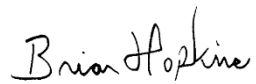
Captain Hajdu continues to advocate for the Drones as First Responders and emphasizes that this technology is the way of the future. Skydio representatives are available to speak to the technology being presented. However, Chairman Villegas informs the body that the videos available will not be presented because there are pending cases, and the city’s Law Department advises on not showing the videos.

Alderspersons Napolitano, Sposato, Waguespack, Moore, and Vasquez, ask questions to the panel.


Chairman Villegas and Hopkins provide closing remarks.

Having no further business before the committee, Chairman Hopkins requested a motion to adjourn. Alderwoman Lee so moved; hearing no objections, Chairman Hopkins adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Chairman Brian Hopkins
Committee on Public Safety



Chairman Gilbert Villegas
Committee on Economic, Capital and Technology Development