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**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

**IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE RIGHTS**

(CHAIRPERSON)

**TRANSPORTATION**

(VICE-CHAIRPERSON)

**BUDGET**

**COMMITTEES AND RULES**

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

**TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WAY**

**COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE RIGHTS**  
**MONTHLY RULE 45 REPORT : JUNE 2023**

Pursuant to Rule 45 of the City of Chicago Rules of Order, the **Committee on Immigrant and Refugee Rights** submits the following Monthly report for **June 2023**.

**REFERRED MATTERS**

**PASSED**

R2023-0001022 Referred 06/21/2023. Call for monthly hearings on City's plans and processes to address migrant and refugee arrivals to Chicago.

**HELD IN COMMITTEE**

O2023-2169 Referred 05/31/2023. Amendment of Municipal Code Chapter 2-40 by modifying Sections 2-40-010 and 2-40-020 regarding inclusion of visually-impaired and hard-of-hearing populations within department-specific language access plans.

OR2023-0001264 Referred 06/21/2023. Call for Chicago Police Department and Chicago Law Department to establish protocols for transparent certification process for U Nonimmigrant Status and provide updates to Joint Committee of Public Safety and Immigration and Refugee Rights.

R2023-0001265 Referred 06/21/2023. Call for hearing(s) with Chicago Police Department and Chicago Law Department regarding status of U Nonimmigrant Status certifications, policies for approval/denial and collection of data.

## **REPORTS AND MATERIALS RECEIVED BY COMMITTEE**

1. 'Welcoming New Arrivals to Chicago' slide deck, provided by Mayor's Office.
2. 'Answers to Alder Submitted Questions' document, provided by Mayor's Office.
3. 'Shelter Rules' document, provided by Department of Family and Support Services.
4. 'Process of Welcoming New Arrivals,' provided by National Immigrant Justice Center.

## **COMMITTEE HEARINGS**

### **SUBJECT MATTER HEARING - JUNE 28, 2023**

On June 28, 2023 at 11:00 AM, the Committee on Immigrant and Refugee Rights held a Subject Matter Hearing in the City Council Chambers, on the 2nd Floor of City Hall.

### **ROLL CALL**

The following committee members were present : Chairman Vasquez (40), Vice Chair Taylor (20), Alderperson Dowell (3), Alderperson Gutierrez (14), Alderperson Rodriguez (22), Alderperson Fuentes (26), Alderperson Taliaferro (29), Alderperson Cruz (30), Alderperson Cardona (31), Alderperson Ramirez-Rosa (35), Alderperson Knudsen (43), Alderperson Manaa-Hoppenworth (48), Alderperson Hadden (49). A quorum was established.

The following committee members were absent : Alderperson Rodriguez Sanchez (33).

The following non-members were present : Alderperson Robinson (4), Alderperson Lee (11), Alderperson Sigcho Lopez (25), Alderperson Nugent (39).

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following public speakers were each given three minutes to provide their testimony : Reverend Dr. Beth Brown, Baltazar Enriquez, Carlos Ballesteros.

## **THE COMMITTEE ADDRESSED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS**

**R2023-0001022** Call for monthly hearings on City's plans and processes to address migrant and refugee arrivals to Chicago

- Chairman Vasquez introduced the resolution.
- Chairman Vasquez introduced :
  - Mayor's Office Deputy Chief of Staff : Cristina Pacione-Zayas;
  - Mayor's Office First Deputy Mayor of Immigrant, Migrant, and Refugee Rights : Rey Wences Najera;
  - Office Of Emergency Management & Communications Manager of Emergency Management Services : Matthew Doughtie;

- National Immigrant Justice Center Senior Attorney, Asylum Project : Lisiann Rodriguez;
- National Immigrant Justice Center Associate Director of Protection Based Relief : Aneesha Gandhi.
- Mayor's Office Deputy Chief of Staff Cristina Pacione-Zayas and First Deputy Mayor of Immigrant, Migrant, and Refugee Rights Rey Wences Najera provided testimony, and led a slide presentation titled 'Welcoming New Arrivals to Chicago,' which detailed the City of Chicago's response to the influx of migrants since August 2022.
- Chairman Vasquez opened the floor for Alderpersons to ask questions.
- The following committee members and non-members asked questions or made comments : Alderperson Taliaferro, Alderperson Dowell, Alderperson Rodriguez, Alderperson Lee, Alderperson Hadden, Alderperson Taylor, Alderperson Dowell, Alderperson Sigcho Lopez, Alderperson Gutierrez, Alderperson Manaa-Hoppenworth, Alderperson Fuentes, Alderperson Cardona.
- The Mayor's Office representatives answered questions regarding the Mayor's Office's coordination and strategy for welcoming new migrants. Office Of Emergency Management & Communications (OEMC) Manager of Emergency Management Services Matthew Doughtie answered questions regarding OEMC's role in welcoming migrants and coordinating with Chicago Police Departments. National Immigrant Justice Center (NIJC) Associate Director of Protection Based Relief Aneesha Gandhi answered questions regarding asylum status and federal policy. Chairman Vasquez answered questions regarding future committee meetings and communication.
- When testimony was completed, Chairman Vasquez asked for a motion to vote on R2023-0001022. Alderperson Fuentes so moved, and Chairman Vasquez asked committee members to vote by voice. In the opinion of the chair, the ayes won and the resolution passed.
- Chairman Vasquez will bring the resolution to City Council on July 19, 2023.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Vasquez asked for a motion to adjourn. Alderperson Rodriguez so moved. Hearing no objections, Chairman Vasquez adjourned the meeting.