

## Daniel La Spata

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### CITY OF CHICAGO CITY COUNCIL



CITY HALL  
3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR - ROOM 300  
121 NORTH LASALLE STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602

Chair, Committee on Pedestrian and  
Traffic Safety

Vice Chair, Committee on Contracting  
Oversight and Equity

Ex-Officio, Chicago Plan Commission

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Standards

## **MONTHLY REPORT – MARCH 2024** **COMMITTEE ON PEDESTRIAN AND TRAFFIC SAFETY**

Pursuant to the Rule 45 of City of Chicago Rules and Order, the Committee on Pedestrian and Traffic Safety submits the following monthly report for March 2024.

### **Date, Time, & Location of Meeting:**

On Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 10:30 a.m. the Committee on Pedestrian and Traffic Safety held a meeting at City Hall in Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order at 10:37 a.m.

### **Members in Attendance:**

Chairman La Spata (1<sup>st</sup> Ward)  
Alderman Hopkins (2<sup>nd</sup> Ward)  
Alderman Robinson (4<sup>th</sup> Ward) - virtual  
Alderman Yancy (5<sup>th</sup> Ward) - virtual  
Alderman Chico (10<sup>th</sup> Ward)  
Alderman Quinn (13<sup>th</sup> Ward)  
Alderman Moore (17<sup>th</sup> Ward)  
Vice Mayor Burnett (27<sup>th</sup> Ward)  
Alderman Ervin (28<sup>th</sup> Ward) - virtual  
Vice Chairman Cruz (30<sup>th</sup> Ward)  
Alderman Knudsen (43<sup>rd</sup> Ward)  
Alderman Lawson (44<sup>th</sup> Ward)  
Alderman Martin (47<sup>th</sup> Ward)  
Alderman Manaa-Hoppenworth (48<sup>th</sup> Ward)

**Absent Members:** Alderman Curtis (18<sup>th</sup> Ward)

The Chairman accepted a motion from Ald. Martin to allow for remote participation by Ald. Ervin, Ald. Robinson, and Ald. Yancy, which were approved by the same roll call as was used to establish quorum.

**Public Comment:**

There were two written and four spoken public comments for this meeting. Written comment is included in its entirety on pages 3-4.

Spoken Public Comment was provided by the following individuals (in order of appearance):

- Dominic Amato: member of Sierra Club expressing concerns with the appointment of Tom Carney to Commissioner of CDOT; opposes CDOT’s car-centric culture at the expense of people’s safety and is concerned the appointment signals that the status quo is acceptable, which he disagrees with
- Tiwon Sims: spoke about violence impacting Black young people, uplifting the recent deaths of Black youth in Rogers Park – a 21 year old – and on the South Side – a 15 year old and 21 year old; suggested having a bill that protects young Black people
- Mari Rodriguez: lives on the 1500 block of North Kolin and present to oppose the residential permit parking zone 2426 repeal affecting that block; stated that the majority of neighbors want the residential permit parking to stay in place and the repeal is going against the majority opinion
- George Blakemore: commented on the low public turnout to the meeting, noting how there are more alders present than members of the public; spoke against residential permit parking, stating that since everyone pays taxes everyone should be able to park freely

**Approval of February 2024 Rule 45 Report:**

Ald. Hopkins moved to approve, which was approved by the same roll call as was used to establish quorum.

**Agenda of Matters Considered:**

The Agenda of Matters Considered consisted of 11 pages and included the following matters:

- 122 ordinances related to disabled parking permits,
- 28 ordinances related to traffic warning signs and/or signals,
- 9 ordinances related to residential parking permit zones, and
- 8 ordinances related to parking restrictions

Direct Introductions on pages 1-3 Passed without Department recommendations. Ald. Manaa-Hoppenworth moved to approve all Direct Introduction ordinances, which was approved by the same roll call as was used to establish quorum.

All matters on page 4 Passed as Recommended by the appropriate Department(s). Ald. Knudsen moved to approve all Recommended ordinances on page 4, which was approved by the same roll call as was used to establish quorum.

Departmental Direct Introductions on pages 5-6 Passed as Recommended by the Department of Finance. Ald. Lawson moved to approve all Recommended ordinances on pages 5-6, which was approved by the same roll call as was used to establish quorum.

All matters on pages 7-11 Passed with No Recommendation. These items were submitted as aldermanic overrides or received no recommendations from City Departments. Ald. Moore moved to approve all No Recommendation ordinances on pages 7-11, which was approved by the same roll call as was used to establish quorum.

All actions taken at the meeting were by viva voce vote.

Having no further business before the committee, Chairman La Spata requested a motion to adjourn. Ald. Moore so moved, and hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

**Written Public Comment:**

M. Rodríguez, submitted March 6, 2024:

*Subject: Request for Fair Consideration of Residential Parking Zone 2426 Case #2023-0005909*

*Dear : Esteemed Members of the City Council and Gilbert Villegas .*

*I trust this letter finds you well. I am writing to bring attention to the matter concerning Residential Parking Zone 2426 on the 1500 Block of Kolin, and to address certain concerning developments that have recently come to light.*

*As you are aware, our community submitted a petition for Residential Parking to your office in September 2023. This petition was duly presented to the Committee on November 15, 2023, and subsequently passed by the City Council on December 13, 2023. We were encouraged by the confirmation from CDOT on February 5, 2024, regarding the installation of Residential Parking by February 26, 2024.*

*However, on February 6, 2024, a group of individuals visited your office opposing the implementation of Residential Parking. Their claims included allegations of fraudulent signature collection, which I vehemently deny. I assure you that all signatures were obtained legitimately, and I am prepared to provide any necessary evidence to support this assertion. Additionally, a new petition dated February 21, 2024, has been submitted to reaffirm the genuine support for Residential Parking on our block. Also, I live at 1549 N. Kolin and a registered voter to 36ward of the time of circulation our petition for Residential Parking .*

*Despite my efforts to address these concerns and provide clarification, I have received NO response from your office. It is disheartening that our attempts to engage in dialogue have been met with silence, especially considering the serious nature of the allegations and action to repeal our Residential Parking without Due Process , to those who signed for Residential Parking .*

*Furthermore, it is troubling that due process was not afforded to us before the decision to repeal Residential Parking Zone Ordinance 2426 was made. Our community's urgent need for Residential Parking has been clearly demonstrated through both the initial petition and the subsequent reaffirmation.*

*I respectfully urge you and the City Council to honor the legislation passed on December 13, 2023, and uphold the rights of our community to have a say in matters that directly impact our daily lives. Denying us the right to vote for a service that is crucial to our neighborhood undermines the democratic principles upon which our nation was founded.*

*I humbly request your careful consideration of the facts presented and your support in retaining Residential Parking Zone 2426 2023-0005909 on the 1500 Block of Kolin. Your commitment to upholding due process and respecting the voice of the "majority" in our community is greatly appreciated. We elect Our Elective official by democracy and Due Process and No Person , should feel above the law to infringe constituents rights to decide or Vote on what is best for our community or city by "majority" Rules the same procedures , we use to Elect Our Government Officials. We submitted our Petition for Residential Parking. In a fairly, timely manner and any opposing documents, should have been presented prior to City Counsel.*

*\*\*\*\*\*The Alderman with opposing parties are more focused on slandering my name , then being focused on majority signatures , who are requesting the residential parking . The attack to my character and my active role in my community are without merit .They will answer to a higher power on their continued malicious actions . This is about residential parking , anything else is non-sense. The word Tyrant" used by our*

*Alderman office to describe my active role in my community “ slanderous .But, regardless majority call me resilient and passionate*

*Thank you for your attention to this matter.*

*Sincerely,  
M. Rodríguez  
Block Watch President and Constituent Representative  
1500 Block of Kolin*

Maggie Daly Skogsbakken, submitted March 11, 2024:

*Dear City of Chicago Committee on Pedestrian and Traffic Safety,*

*I am writing on behalf of my family, my school community, and my neighbor who was seriously injured in a violent hit and run at the Avondale crossing (near the Austin Pedestrian Bridge) on Tuesday, April 4th, 2023.*

*Neighbors have expressed concern about the safety of this crossing for years. The Illinois Vehicle Code states that when traffic control signals are not in place or not in operation the driver of a vehicle shall stop and yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within a crosswalk. It is evident that drivers are either not aware of this law or simply do not care.*

*Current signage and roadway infrastructure do little to ensure safety. Many vehicles do not stop or even slow down for pedestrians at this crossing. There have been at least eight reported crashes along Avondale since 2017 and many near misses witnessed by neighbors over the years. Speeding through this crossing is habitual behavior and is preventable.*

*Our children and neighbors must use this dangerous crossing every day to access school, work, and transportation. We are asking you and the City to stand by its Vision Zero commitment and take action to keep residents, especially our children, safe.*

*I have attached a letter from local residents that was submitted to the 45th Ward office last year. Thank you for your time and consideration.*

*Sincerely,  
Maggie Daly Skogsbakken*

Stephen Kiraly, submitted March 12, 2024:

*Honorable Members of the Committee on Pedestrian and Traffic Safety:*

*On behalf of the Fletcher Street and surrounding residents, we are requesting that you reject ordinance O2024-0007713. The requesting petition was completed without informing or soliciting input from adjacent neighbors who will be adversely impacted by this change. Also, it does not appear that the requesting petition fulfills the requirements of Chapter 9-64-090 of the Municipal Code of Chicago, and that the need for 24-hour permit parking is unnecessary. Please see the following photo evidence, unanswered inquiries to our alderman's office, and petition against this ordinance from residents who would bear hardships with its passage.*

*Sincerely,  
Stephen Kiraly*