



CITY OF CHICAGO



COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
CITY COUNCIL
CITY HALL - ROOM 200
121 NORTH LASALLE STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602

ALDERMAN PAT DOWELL
CHAIRMAN

PHONE: 312-744-3166
FACSIMILE: 312-744-9009

Date: May 1, 2020

**COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
MONTHLY RULE 45 REPORT
MARCH 2020**

Pursuant to Rule 45 of the City Council Rules of Order, the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations submits the following Monthly Rule 45 Report for MARCH 2020.

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

On March 11, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations held a meeting in City Hall, Council Chamber, 121 N. LaSalle St., 2nd Floor.

Attendance:

The following members were present at the March 11, 2020 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: Chairman Dowell (3), Vice-Chair Silverstein (50), King (4), Hairston (5), Mitchell (7), Harris (8), Sadlowksi-Garza (10), Thompson (11), Quinn (13), Moore (17), Brookins (21), Rodriguez (22), Tabares (23), Scott (24), Burnett (27), Taliaferro (29), Reboyras (30), Waguespack (32), Austin (34), Ramirez-Rosa (35), Villegas (36), Sposato (38), Reilly (42), Smith (43), Tunney (44), and Osterman (48).

The following members were absent at the March 11, 2020 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: Sawyer (6), Cardenas (12), Quinn (13), Curtis (18), O'Shea (19), Ervin (28), Mitts (37), Napolitano (41), and Cappleman (46),

The following non-members were present at the March 11, 2020 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: Lopez (15) and Cardona (31).



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The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations addressed the following items:

1. Approval of the February 2020 Monthly Rule 45 Monthly Report.

No questions from any Committee Members present. No witnesses signed up to speak on item number 1. Alderman Austin moved to approve the Rule 45 February Monthly Report, which passed by a voice vote.

The following items were referred to the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations at the City Council meeting held on **February 19, 2020:**

2. A substitute ordinance concerning an amendment to the Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2020 within Fund No. 925 for the Department of Housing, Department of Public Health, Department of Family and Support Services, Chicago Police Department and the Office of Emergency Management and Communications.

(SO2020-804)

Chairman Dowell asked for a motion to accept the substitute ordinance. Motion to accept the substitute ordinance made by Alderman Reboyras, which passed by a voice vote. Chairman Dowell explained that the substitute ordinance adds grants to various departments for a total amount of \$13,777,000 of which \$13,000,048 is new money and \$729,000 is carryover. Chairman Dowell introduced Deputy Budget Director Latoya Vaughn from the Office of Budget and Management and acknowledged the other representatives from the various departments in attendance. Deputy Budget Director Vaughn summarized each of the grants in the substitute ordinance.

Alderman Harris requested a list of the projects from the Department of Housing. Bryan Esenberg from the Department of Housing explained the 2020 project includes projects already allocated through the 2017 funding round due to bi-annual funding rounds. Esenberg stated it also includes recommendations in the current LIHTC round and the requested information would be provided through the Chair. Chairman Dowell inquired if the anticipated projects are ten tax credit projects. Esenberg explained the anticipated ten new tax credit projects selected will be announced at the end of the month.

Alderman Moore requested information on the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program. Ayana Thomas from the Department of Public Health explained HOPWA is dedicated to the housing needs of people, and their families, living with AIDS. HOPWA, which has



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been in existence for 10 years, provides subsidies for rental housing and not for home purchase. Alderman Moore requested, Through the Chair, a list of the money allocated on this program in the past 5 years and the communities targeted. Alderman Moore inquired about the Urban Areas Security Initiatives funding, asked for examples of funding allocated and asked if the focus of funding is strictly on terrorism. Natalie Gutierrez from the Office of Emergency Management and Communications explained the Urban Areas Security Initiative is a federal grant program from the Department of Homeland Security and FEMA, and funds are directed specifically toward terrorism prevention. Funding is shared across all public safety agencies, including AIS and that funding includes: camera programs, public safety radios, trucking systems, encryption to secure radio portals, cyber security initiatives specific to the citywide network and public safety network, and Police and Fire Department shell operations and training equipment. Gutierrez further stated that the grant would fund anything related to entering a hazardous or massacre casualty event, as a result of a terrorism incident.

Alderman Villegas inquired if the \$100,000 Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act is the first and/or only investment to address health and wellness within the police department. Dr. Rob Sobo, Director of the Chicago Police Department EAP explained the \$100,000 grant is the first funding allocated specifically to address officer wellness and will support building the peer support program to meet national standards. It will also help to subsidize training to allow more officers to be distributed throughout every district and unit throughout the Chicago Police Department, raising the department to the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) standards of peer support. Chairman Dowell requested Deputy Budget Director Vaughn to provide past grants received by CPD for peer support to be sent Through the Chair.

Alderman Hairston inquired how grants are allocated as a number are focused on the north side and requests the department to allocate funding more equally in light of the Invest South West initiative. Alderman Hairston explained there is a lack of investment in resources, the need for a number of new nonprofits to be funded, and the need for more programs to serve the majority of the south and west sides. Deputy Budget Director Vaughn agreed to take feedback to the Department and the Commissioner. Chairman Dowell stated there are no homeless shelters in the 3rd, 4th, 5th, 20th and 8th Wards, which areas are experiencing an increase in homelessness and the migration of homeless from the central area to those areas. Alderman Austin added to include the 34th Ward and Alderman Tunney added to include the 44th Ward to the discussion. Alderman Austin explained a nonprofit in the 34th Ward closed their doors due to slow payments and inquired if there were any new projects on the list for the HOME funds. Bryan Esenberg



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reiterated the projects listed as part of the grant were from the 2017 round and that there are an anticipated ten additional projects to be added. Chairman Dowell stated the Committee on Housing previously provided a list of the 2017 tax credit winners.

Alderman Rodriguez inquired about specific information on coronavirus funding. Chairman Dowell stated there is a plan in place to have the Department of Public Health come before the Committee to provide details on the \$11 million grant and a plan for utilizing the funds. Christopher Shields from the Department of Public Health explained the \$11 million represents two appropriations forthcoming and that the City received \$1.75 million in this current funding application. Shields stated the City is expecting a second grant in the range of \$8.75 million. He further stated as the budget is being built, the \$1.75 million is being utilized to address the staff costs associated with the response, which includes monitoring activities across the city, increasing surveillance and case identification capabilities, as well as infection control and emergency and risk communication strategies. Alderman Rodriguez informed the committee about the City and County paid sick leave policy that was discussed at a previous press conference and asked when the \$1.75 million would be allocated. Shields explained the \$1.75 million has been allocated and a budget will be submitted to outline use of funds and he further explained the \$8.75 million funding is forthcoming. In previous disease responses, multiple appropriations came through the federal government based on consumption needs and as diseases expanded, the funds were then allocated based on need. Alderman Rodriguez inquired if these were federal grants and if the funding was adequate. Shields confirmed the use of federal dollars without putting a value on the adequacy of funding.

Alderman Osterman advised the members of the committee to visualize where we will be in a month and to be prepared as we understand that other countries and states had very small coronavirus outbreaks that rapidly spread. Alderman Osterman commended the leadership at the CDPH and the Mayor for their extraordinary job in working with the State. Alderman Osterman advised the city to get a fuller grasp of the financial need over the next few months, determine if we can appropriate funds sooner to prepare for the future, project how the funds will be used as it will impact every neighborhood in the city of Chicago, and to address this outbreak in a very micro local level. Alderman Osterman would like to work with the Chair on a breakdown of the funds needed to get through the coronavirus outbreak. Chairman Dowell agreed to follow up on his suggestion.



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Alderman Smith inquired about how the city is planning to work with other providers to handle coronavirus testing needs and requests. Alderman Smith inquired how testing will be administered and will the federal grant money for testing be allocated to other places. Chairman Dowell informed the committee that the Administration is working on these procedures and that there will be an opportunity to have all these specific coronavirus questions responded to. Shields clarified the \$1.75 million currently available is supporting the staff costs associated with what has been done regarding laboratory support and further explained with the next round of funding, they will identify the allocation of each of the components identified. Chairman Dowell asked if the department would be sharing the testing protocols with the public at a later date and Shields answered in the affirmative.

Alderman King inquired if the city had data to determine types of funding and how these types of funds are appropriated in other cities or countries experiencing a more aggressive level of the spread of coronavirus and how has their spending mitigated the spread of the virus. Alderman King inquired if this information indicates that the funds should be spent on testing, marketing, outreach, education or other. Christopher Shields from the Department of Public Health explained the Health Department is in direct coordination with City, County and State partners, as well as with other areas in the United States, that are already experiencing a larger prevalence of COVID-19 in their population. Shields further explained for all disease responses, the funds are being spent up front, which applies to testing, marketing, outreach, and education. This is followed by identification of the cases, getting the information into the population, and re-targeting aggressive prevention measures. Shields stated as a case is identified, it is a full-court press, specifically on the individual and their group of contacts, and it expands out from there. As the spread of the disease is identified, CDPH performs roll back to specific case management. Alderman King inquired if the city thinks getting the test kits will be an issue. Chairman Dowell inquired if the state received any funding and the amount of funding. Shields explained the State is part of the appropriation package and is receiving \$14 million in the second funding opportunity. The city is getting \$8.75 million, representing separate funds.

There being no more questions from committee members and aldermen present, Chairman Dowell opened the floor for public comment. Chairman Dowell recognized G. Blakemore who was not present to speak.

Motion made by Alderman Austin on item number 2, which passed by a voice vote.



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The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations having no further business, on a motion made by Alderman Thompson, the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting was adjourned.

PASS COMMITTEE 03/11/20
PASS CITY COUNCIL 04/22/20

3. **A resolution, introduced by Alderman Lopez (15th Ward) and Alderman Coleman (16th Ward), calling for hearing(s) regarding death of a horse in Englewood community and call on Departments of Animal Care and Control, Police, and Streets and Sanitation to discuss interdepartmental policies and procedures for managing service requests.
(R2020-170)
NO ACTION TAKEN**

Respectfully submitted by:

Pat Dowell
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations