



CITY OF CHICAGO
CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL CHAMBER
CITY HALL ROOM 200
121 NORTH LASALLE STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602

November 4, 2025

Mayor Brandon Johnson
Office of the Mayor
City Hall, 121 N. LaSalle Street
Chicago, IL 60602

Re: EY Budget hearing request

Dear Mayor Johnson,

We are writing to acknowledge and welcome the administration's decision to hold a budget hearing with EY on Monday, November 10th, 2025, to review the findings of their October report, *City of Chicago: Financial and Strategic Reform Options*. This is an important step toward greater transparency and fiscal accountability in the City's budgeting process. While we are disappointed that this hearing was only scheduled following the filing of our notice for a special City Council meeting, we are encouraged that this discussion will now move forward in a public and transparent setting.

To ensure that Monday's hearing is as productive as possible, we respectfully request copies of the City's contract with EY, as well as any non-disclosure agreements or related documents that may restrict EY representatives from responding to questions fully and openly. We believe that both the Council and the public deserve an honest and comprehensive discussion of EY's recommendations and their potential to strengthen the City's financial position and avoid to the greatest extent possible any additional taxes, fees, and borrowing in the FY26 budget.

In addition, we believe that this initial hearing should be followed by a separate session later this month with the City's Chief Financial Officer, City Comptroller and Budget Director to discuss revenue projections, efficiencies, and long-term fiscal planning. These conversations are essential to ensuring a transparent, data-driven budgeting process that prioritizes structural reforms over short-term fixes.

When these steps are fulfilled, we will withdraw our notice for a special meeting of the City Council. Our shared goal remains to promote transparency, accountability, and responsible financial stewardship for the people of Chicago.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to a constructive and collaborative discussion in the days ahead.

Sincerely,

Alderman Samantha Nugent, 39th Ward
Alderman Scott Waguespack, 32nd Ward
Alderman Matthew J. O'Shea, 19th Ward
Alderman Monique L. Scott, 24th Ward
Alderman Gilbert Villegas, 36th Ward
Alderman Nicole T. Lee, 11th Ward
Alderman Ruth Cruz, 30th Ward
Alderman Timmy Knudsen, 43rd Ward
Alderman Ronnie L. Mosley, 21st Ward
Alderman Matthew J. Martin, 47th Ward
Alderman Brendan Reilly, 42nd Ward
Alderman Bill Conway, 34th Ward
Alderman Daniel LaSpata, 1st Ward
Alderman Brian Hopkins, 2nd Ward
Alderman Nick Sposato, 38th Ward
Alderman Stephanie Coleman, 16th Ward
Alderman Anthony Napolitano, 41st Ward
Alderman Bennett Lawson, 44th Ward
Alderman Marty Quinn, 13th Ward
Alderman Debra Silverstein, 50th Ward
Alderman James Gardiner, 45th Ward
Alderman Raymond Lopez, 15th Ward
Alderman Derrick Curtis, 18th Ward
Alderman Peter Chico, 10th Ward
Alderman Silvana Tabares, 23rd Ward
Alderman Anthony Beale, 9th Ward
Alderman Felix Cardona, 31st Ward