

(Published by the Authority of the City Council of the City of Chicago)

**COPY**

**JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
of the  
CITY COUNCIL  
of the  
CITY of CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

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Special Meeting -- Wednesday, October 14, 1998

at 10:00 A.M.

(Council Chambers--City Hall--Chicago, Illinois)

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**OFFICIAL RECORD**

**RICHARD M. DALEY**  
Mayor

**JAMES J. LASKI**  
City Clerk

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**Attendance At Meeting.**

*Present* -- The Honorable Richard M. Daley, Mayor, and Aldermen Granato, Haithcock, Tillman, Preckwinkle, Holt, Beavers, Dixon, Shaw, Buchanan, Balcer, Frias, Olivo, Burke, Coleman, Peterson, Murphy, Rugai, Troutman, DeVille, Munoz, Zalewski, Chandler, Solis, Ocasio, Burnett, E. Smith, Wojcik, Suarez, Mell, Austin, Colom, Banks, Giles, Allen, Laurino, O'Connor, Doherty, Natarus, Bernardini, Hansen, Levar, Shiller, Schulter, M. Smith, Moore, Stone.

Alderman Burke noted that Alderman Burrell was absent as a consequence of a death in his family.

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**Call To Order.**

On Wednesday, October 14, 1998 at 10:00 A.M., The Honorable Richard M. Daley, Mayor, called the City Council to order. The Honorable James J. Laski, City Clerk, called the roll of members and it was found that there were present at that time: Aldermen Granato, Haithcock, Preckwinkle, Holt, Beavers, Dixon, Shaw, Buchanan, Balcer, Frias, Olivo, Burke, Coleman, Peterson, Rugai, DeVille, Munoz, Zalewski, Chandler, Solis, Burnett, E. Smith, Wojcik, Suarez, Mell, Banks, Giles, Allen, Laurino, O'Connor, Natarus, Hansen, Levar, Schulter, M. Smith, Stone -- 36.

Quorum present.

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**Invocation.**

Reverend Carlos Sanchez of North Shore Baptist Church opened the meeting with prayer.

*Placed On File -- CALL FOR SPECIAL MEETING.*

The Honorable James J. Laski, City Clerk, informed the City Council that the following call for a special meeting was filed in his office on October 8, 1998, at 3:15 P.M.:

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF CHICAGO

October 8, 1998.

*Honorable James J. Laski  
City Clerk  
City Hall, Room 107  
121 North LaSalle Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60602*

DEAR MR. LASKI -- I hereby call a special meeting of the City Council of the City of Chicago, to be convened at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, October 14, 1998, in the City Council Chamber in City Hall, for the following purposes and for no other purpose whatsoever:

1. To receive the Executive Budget for the year beginning January 1, 1999, and ending December 31, 1999, and the Mayor's Budget Message relating thereto; and
2. To receive the Year XXV Community Development Block Grant recommendations; and
3. To consider a resolution calling for publication of the Executive Budget and setting the date, time and place of the public hearing thereon.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) RICHARD M. DALEY,  
*Mayor.*

10/14/98

SPECIAL MEETING

80173

*Referred -- EXECUTIVE BUDGET FOR YEAR 1999.*

The Honorable Richard M. Daley, Mayor, submitted the following communication which was, together with the Executive Budget for fiscal year 1999, Program and Budget Summary for 1999, Draft Action Plan for 1999 and Revenue Estimates for 1999, *Referred to the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations:*

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF CHICAGO

October 14, 1998.

*To the Honorable, The City Council of the City of Chicago:*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN -- I transmit herewith the Executive Budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 1999, and the Year XXV Community Development Block Grant recommendations.

Your favorable consideration of these items will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) RICHARD M. DALEY,  
*Mayor.*

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**BUDGET ADDRESS OF  
THE HONORABLE RICHARD M. DALEY, MAYOR.**

Members of the City Council and distinguished guests:

Today, I am presenting for your consideration a city budget.

Every budget is important because it's the place where we set our city's priorities, vision and values.

But this budget takes on added meaning because it will be the last city budget of the twentieth century.

This landmark should serve as a reminder to us all -- that the decisions we make today will affect people, families and communities for a long time to come.

With its hundreds of pages of numbers and charts, the budget document itself is something only an accountant could love.

But each line in the budget represents much more than money.

These are statements about our priorities -- what we believe is important to the people of Chicago and the future of our city. These are the investments we believe will make every neighborhood in our city better and stronger.

By working together over the past decade, I believe that you and I have made the right decisions for Chicago. And Chicago's reaping the benefit today.

Because we all believe that safe neighborhoods must be a priority, we've added more than 1,500 officers. These officers work hand-in-hand with people in our neighborhoods in the most extensive community policing program in America.

And today, crime is down.

Because we all believe that new streets, parks, libraries and shops are the foundation upon which communities grow, we have invested more than \$2.6 Billion into our neighborhoods.

And today, the quality of life in our neighborhoods is improving.

Because jobs and opportunities ensure that everyone shares in the benefits of today's strong economy and that no one is left behind should the economy change, we're turning abandoned industrial sites into new, state-of-the-art industrial parks and developing industrial and commercial corridors.

And today, new jobs are coming to our neighborhoods.

And while it is not the subject of this budget, our commitment to education reform and school improvements remains central to Chicago's strength and vitality -- both to attract families in search of a good education for their children, and companies in search of a quality workforce.

Here too, there are important signs of progress, from rising test scores to increased attendance and fewer dropouts.

Through the decisions we have taken and the investments we have made, we have put Chicago on the right track as the new century dawns. Chicago is, in many ways, the envy of the nation -- leading a national urban renaissance.

But everyone in this chamber knows that our work is far from done.

Our neighborhoods, schools, parks, libraries, and other community anchors are all in need of constant investment and upgrading. These investments are needed to serve the working families and homeowners who are the backbone of Chicago -- the people who have lived and worked here for years.

We've worked to make sure their quality of life improves as the city, the region and the nation grow.

They're the ones raising the kids, paying the taxes, going to beat meetings, cleaning their parks and neighborhoods.

For the past ten years, we've matched this commitment to communities. We've taken the extra revenues -- using good management and investing what this good economy has provided -- to put money right back into the neighborhoods.

That's what this budget is really about -- making America's success your neighborhood's success.

With this budget, we will also deepen our commitment to keeping neighborhoods affordable, something that is directly linked to our remarkable growth and progress of the last few years.

Today, we live in one of the strongest economic periods of our history.

New businesses are locating here, homes are being built, new families are moving in and choosing to call Chicago home.

But for some -- especially for long-time residents of rapidly-changing neighborhoods -- these good times can cut two ways. As property values increase, property taxes and rents might go up.

Some wonder whether or not they can afford to continue to live in their neighborhoods.

We will continue to protect them -- and make sure that people of every income level have the freedom and ability to live where they want to live. Rising property

values should never drive people out of their neighborhoods.

That's why, several months ago, we announced the Chicago Homeowners Assistance Program, which protects long-time residents in changing neighborhoods -- whose incomes have not kept up with the increases in property values.

The program helps them pay a portion of their taxes for as long as they choose to live in their homes.

That's why in 1994, I supported the freeze in property taxes enacted by the legislature for many senior citizens -- those who are on fixed incomes and have not shared in the benefits of a strong economy. They want to continue to live in the neighborhoods they've called home for years -- and I want them to continue to live there, as well.

That's also why, for 10 years, we've been vigilant about holding the line on property taxes. Throughout my administration, property taxes have gone up less than one percent a year -- a record I'm proud of, but one that we're always working to improve.

Next year, we will improve on this record, because property taxes are going down. This budget includes a tax cut of \$20 Million, and no increase in other taxes or fees.

With this budget, we will meet all of our commitments and still give something back to taxpayers.

The amusement tax is also being reduced, so that the new and existing live theater around Chicago will become even more affordable for families.

Finally, our recently announced five year housing plan builds on the more than \$900 million investment in housing we began in 1993. Our new \$1.3 Billion plan deepens our commitment to housing for people of all backgrounds and incomes. Since 1993, we have helped build or preserve more than 40,000 units of new housing.

Our new plan will mean more working families buying their own homes, and more people on limited incomes affording the home of their choice.

It will mean more money for rehabbing homes, so that the character of our neighborhoods can be maintained.

Most of all, it means that people can continue to live in their neighborhoods.

Taken together -- in this budget, the five year housing program, the property tax cut, and the Chicago Homeowners Assistance Program -- represent our continuing commitment to taxpayers -- and to all people of all neighborhoods.

And that's important, because next year, we're doing even more. We'll make more investments for you and your families -- in your neighborhoods, where it matters most to you and your quality of life.

Thanks to our pension legislation enacted by the legislature this year and the sale of some city assets -- we are not only able to reduce property taxes -- but we can also continue the Neighborhoods Alive Program.

This year, Neighborhoods Alive include another \$260 Million in capital spending -- meeting the \$1 Billion commitment I made to you when I unveiled the program in 1997 for a total of \$2.6 Billion invested over the past ten years.

The program includes:

- 1,200 new blocks of paved city streets
- 1,400 more blocks of restored alleys
- 12,000 more replaced alley lights -- which more than doubles last year's effort and
- 27 new median and streetscaping projects in neighborhoods all across Chicago.

And this is on top of a decades worth of investments in our neighborhoods that includes:

- more than 14,000 blocks of paved residential streets
- more than 7,000 restored alleys -- and nearly 700 newly-constructed alleys
- more than 20,000 alley lights replaced and
- more than 800 blocks worth of median and commercial streetscaping projects.

That just begins to tell our story of rebuilding neighborhoods. In some cases, we're literally rebuilding neighborhoods from the ground up.

Last month, I announced a major new plan -- a \$500 Million commitment -- for the ABLA community. This plan will improve housing, parks and transportation for ABLA residents and provide new opportunities for them to be placed in full-time jobs.

For too long, ABLA residents have been isolated from the progress in the surrounding neighborhoods.

We will make ABLA part of a mixed-income community, with improved services, good shopping and transportation.

Our plan for ABLA will be a blueprint for restoring public housing communities throughout Chicago -- and the nation.

For the least fortunate Chicagoans, we are taking extra steps to ensure that homeless people are given services that help them get back on their feet. Next year, we'll begin operating a new Mobile Services unit, which will go out to assist homeless people, helping them with basic care services and referrals. These mobile units will drive homeless people to shelters, medical facilities or to jobs.

The best way to help homeless people is to help them become self-reliant and get back in permanent housing.

There are other important neighborhood investments on the way. Safety is vital -- on our blocks and our roadways.

We're going to make a major investment in neighborhood traffic safety this year -- adding miles of new safety guardrails along South Lake Shore Drive, and expanding left-turn signals across the city.

We will also expand cul-de-sacs and add more traffic-calming barriers to slow down traffic in neighborhoods.

But the most important investment in all neighborhoods -- the centerpiece of our neighborhood -- are schools. In early 1996, the Chicago Public Schools began their capital program -- and no other school system in the country has matched our ambition or results.

Without waiting for new help from Washington or Springfield, 550 schools have received -- or are receiving -- major capital renovations: new roofs, new windows, a new lease on life.

An aggressive new construction program has seen eight new schools and forty-eight additions or annexes built -- or underway.

This is a \$1.4 Billion investment in our children and our future. Improvements have been made in every school in the system.

Two years ago, the City of Chicago began a new partnership with the Chicago Public Schools and the Chicago Park District to build campus-like parks in neighborhood schools all around Chicago.

So far, more than fifty of these parks have been built -- replacing ugly, unsafe asphalt with playgrounds, grass and trees. This year, we'll continue this commitment and build several more ambitious campus projects.

The goal is to make all Chicago Public Schools a beacon of hope in our neighborhoods -- places where all residents feel at home for school and civic activities. Our schools are the home of lifelong learning, and these parks help strengthen that connection.

In addition to the campus park program, the Park District alone has taken dramatic steps to improve the quality of our neighborhood parks.

Family programs have been added. Ball fields, soccer fields and ice rinks have been built or improved. Swimming pools and beach houses have been restored. The Chicago Park District is in the midst of \$90 Million in park improvements -- this year alone -- and all of these improvements have been made without raising taxes.

The Canaryville library and both regional libraries -- Sulzer and Woodson -- will be renovated. Five additional branch libraries -- Austin Irving, Washington Heights, Archer, Edgebrook and Avalon -- will be under construction.

Libraries are some of the best bargains in Chicago -- and some of the best resources for parents, offering safe places to read, do homework and participate in community activities.

While the changes at the Chicago Public Schools, the Park District and the Chicago Public Library have gained the most attention, real reform is also underway at the CTA.

The CTA is focused on delivering quality, affordable transit services that link people, jobs and communities.

They're implementing a simpler fare structure that makes it easier for riders. They've made major safety improvements -- including better lighting. Security cameras will be added on some CTA buses.

And they've made CTA stations and stops cleaner and more attractive. Today, CTA ridership is up and the future looks brighter.

All of these investments will help make this a better city for people and families.

But there are some families in Chicago that need a little more help than others. And I believe that protecting the children of these families is one of our greatest duties.

To protect children as best we can, we must begin as soon as we can.

Earlier this year, I outlined a plan to expand our commitment to child care in Chicago -- to give every child a solid foundation that will help throughout school and throughout life.

Today, most mothers are working mothers. Sixty percent of children are placed in some form of child care -- spending many hours a day in an environment away from home.

These are crucial years in a child's life.

Today in Chicago, child-care services are provided in a range of places: community centers, licensed homes, DCFS facilities and pre-kindergarten classes.

But there's no assurance of quality. The best of them are learning centers. But the worst of them are nothing more than babysitters -- where the kids spend all day watching television.

We need to expand the child-care accreditation process -- not by creating bureaucratic hoops to jump through, but by offering a system to train employees and improve facilities.

Care providers need to focus on educational activities and they must stimulate children in a positive way, understanding the importance of maintaining a clean, safe site, and ensuring that children's nutritional needs are met.

Over the next five years, the City will commit \$5 Million -- which will leverage \$10 Million in private and foundation contributions -- to help launch the Chicago Child Care Accreditation Project.

The public-private partnership will help bring all publicly funded day care centers in Chicago in line with nationally recognized standards.

For parents, this means that you can be assured that every public funded child care center, in every neighborhood, meets the highest standards for safety, staff training, programming and facility management.

Protecting children also extends to helping mothers -- even before children are born. In the Robert Taylor Homes, a new program has been in effect to help raise healthier babies.

In this program, health care and social workers go door-to-door to identify expectant mothers and infants -- and to refer them to prenatal or early-childhood care. This program has helped increase the number of healthy newborns and cut down on infant mortality .

Next year, we'll expand the program to 750 families in public housing communities. This is a program that will save lives and put young children on a path towards healthy adulthood.

This budget expands on our already strong commitment to children's health. Over the past ten years, we have expanded our immunization rate from 27 percent to 71 percent of children.

And we will also expand our commitment to women's health. We have more than doubled the number of women who receive breast cancer screenings.

Another threat to the health and safety of our families demands our attention. Child abuse is a terrible crime that affects all communities in this country -- and it is time for us to take stronger action to stop it.

Next year, the City of Chicago will begin construction on a first-of-its-kind Child Advocacy Center.

This Center will be an oasis for physically and sexually abused children offering a safe, secure place to receive medical attention -- instead of forcing them into the chaotic and intimidating environment of a hospital emergency room.

The Center will house police and State's Attorney investigators -- so that they can help build a criminal case against adult predators as soon as possible -- without subjecting the children to repeated interviews.

And for predators, it means that prosecution will follow closely upon the treatment and care of the victims.

Protecting children -- our elderly -- and all law-abiding citizens of Chicago -- is an enormous challenge that must be tackled every day, on every block.

Every Chicagoan deserves to live in a clean, safe, orderly neighborhood -- and every Chicagoan has a role in making that happen.

That's what community policing is all about -- people working together makes it easier for our police officers to do their job. Everyone must be involved in the fight against gangs, guns and drugs.

In Chicago, community policing has worked, for several reasons:

With all new recruits meeting the highest standards ever -- today's police are the best trained in our city's history.

More police are out on the beat -- with many police moved off desk duty.

The combination of beat officers and rapid response teams is making a difference.

In addition to the 1,500 new officers we've added throughout the 1990s, this year we've increased our police force by one hundred fifty -- adding ninety special operations officers and sixty narcotics officers.

These new officers are focusing on issues of gangs and drugs -- allowing our beat officers to focus on day-by-day neighborhood problems.

We are also improving our field training for all Chicago Police Officers.

New performance benchmarks will be used to screen and select field training officers.

As I have said many times, we have the best police department in the world -- and our officers must be beyond reproach.

In the past year, there has been concern about the conduct of a few of them.

One way to ensure that our police department protects and serves all Chicagoans is to have a strong Office of Professional Standards. That's why we are adding new OPS investigators -- and improving training -- to ensure that the highest professional standards are upheld.

An equally important part of community policing is identifying the problems that lead to crime, like abandoned buildings, abandoned cars and graffiti.

The 311 system will tie all non-emergency calls and service requests right into our community policing system -- giving every Chicagoan a direct link and a new problem solving tool.

And we'll give residents more tools to help them deter crime. This budget will expand citywide a pilot program we tested on the West Side this year, giving residents the option of having higher-powered lights installed in their alleys if they believe the lights will deter crime.

We'll be adding more light fixtures, in addition to more and brighter alley light bulbs.

An important part of police work is a community presence. Police stations are one of the best neighborhood building tools we have -- they connect residents to their beat officers and send a strong message that safety comes first.

Next year, three new police stations will open across Chicago -- including the new 1<sup>st</sup> District station in the South Loop, the new 6<sup>th</sup> District on the South Side and the 16<sup>th</sup> District station in Jefferson Park.

The new Evidence and Property Recovery facility will open in Homan Square. And construction will begin on new police stations in the Near North/Cabrini-Green community and in the 20<sup>th</sup> District on the North Side.

These new investments will strengthen community policing and help our citizens become more involved in building safer neighborhoods. But as I have said many times, the best crime fighting program ever devised is a good job.

Today, with a strong Chicago job market, the challenge is to prepare all Chicagoans for the workforce. That means good schools for children -- and real job training, tied to actual jobs, for adults.

This year, the Mayor's Office of Workforce Development will train and place more than 500 Chicago residents in permanent jobs throughout the city.

Our Workforce Solutions program is helping companies like Dominick's, Cineplex Odeon, Marriott Hotels, CSX Intermodal and the Hotel Allegro -- to match Chicagoans with jobs and give them the specific training to succeed.

This is not generic job training -- it is training customized to fit real jobs.

This service helps everyone. It helps neighborhood business find good well-trained workers. And it helps people break through the barriers that keep them away from full-time work.

Many of our Workforce Solutions projects work in conjunction with tax-increment financing projects, so that economic development and job training go hand-in-hand.

TIFs are a tool that bring good jobs -- to neighborhoods across Chicago.

So far, two industrial parks in Chicago -- Goose Island and the Stockyards -- have helped to attract new industrial development, maintain existing businesses and jobs, create new jobs and expand the tax base.

On Goose Island, for example, Sara Lee just announced the relocation of a major part of its bakery division.

The success of Goose Island is duplicated on Chicago's South Side at the Stockyards Industrial Park, where over 500 acres of land fall largely within three TIF districts -- and where 115 companies now operate, creating more than 3,000 local jobs.

Because of the success of Goose Island and the Stockyards, five new industrial TIFs are now underway. These districts will help shake Chicago's image as a Rust Belt city -- and show that we have a strong industrial future.

This year, we'll help make TIFs and all our economic development strategies work better by creating a \$25 Million Strategic Investment Fund.

Many Chicago businesses would like to expand or relocate their operations in Chicago, but have trouble finding the right site. This fund will help assemble and prepare that land -- attracting new business and creating more neighborhood jobs.

Jobs are an important part of making Chicago neighborhoods come alive.

Our Neighborhoods Alive program is a commitment to improving the quality of life all across Chicago. It means creating jobs, investing in parks, libraries, schools and commercial districts, and taking care of the details that make a neighborhood livable.

When all is said and done, strengthening every city block and enhancing our quality of life remains our chief responsibility.

We are here to represent all Chicagoans -- and to make all Chicago more livable. Working together over the last decade, we have put the focus back on Chicago's neighborhoods.

We have ensured that the good economic times of today have strengthened our neighborhoods for tomorrow. No one knows for sure what the future may hold.

But we are prepared. We have strengthened the foundation of our city so that it can survive the toughest times, and can grow the good times.

Thank you for working with me -- for keeping the focus on our neighborhoods and our families -- for keeping Chicago on the right track as a new century dawns.

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*Rules Suspended* -- TIME FIXED FOR PUBLIC HEARING  
ON EXECUTIVE BUDGET FOR YEAR 1999.

Alderman Dixon moved to introduce the following proposed resolution:

WHEREAS, Mayor Richard M. Daley, on October 14, 1998, submitted to the City Council the Executive Budget of the City of Chicago for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 1999, and ending December 31, 1999; and

WHEREAS, It is provided by law that at least one public hearing shall be held by the corporate authorities on the budget document not less than one week after publication thereof in such manner as the corporate authorities may determine, and prior to final action thereon; and

WHEREAS, It is further provided by law that notice of such hearing shall be given by publication in a newspaper having general circulation in the City of Chicago not less than one week prior to the time of such hearing; now, therefore,

*Be It Resolved*, That the budget document for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 1999, and ending December 31, 1999, as submitted by the Mayor to the City Council on October 14, 1998, be published in pamphlet form and made available for public inspection in the Office of the City Clerk and in the Chicago Public Library no later than October 16, 1998; and

*Be It Further Resolved*, That the public hearing on said budget document be held by the City Council at 11:00 A.M. on November 4, 1998, in the City Council Chambers in City Hall; and the City Clerk is hereby directed to cause a notice of such hearing to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the City of Chicago at least one week prior to the time of such public hearing.

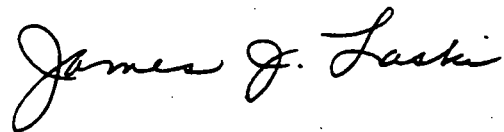
Alderman Dixon moved to *Suspend the Rules Temporarily* for the immediate consideration of and action upon the foregoing proposed resolution. The motion *Prevailed* by a viva voce vote.

Thereupon, on motion of Alderman Dixon, the foregoing proposed resolution was *Adopted* by a viva voce vote.

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**Adjournment.**

Thereupon, Alderman Burke moved that the City Council do *Adjourn*. The motion *Prevailed* and the City Council *Stood Adjourned*.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James J. Laski".

JAMES J. LASKI,  
City Clerk.