

2026 Policy Agenda

Join us in the fight for equity!

Public Housing

- Increase the supply of affordable housing by advocating for the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) to adopt and expand on innovative development models to more rapidly produce the roughly 19,000 public housing units available to be subsidized under its “Faircloth Cap.”
- Monitor the CHA’s progress under the amended *Gautreaux* Settlement Agreement and reach full compliance by the 2027 deadline.
- Promote public developer models in Illinois by supporting the launch of the City of Chicago’s Green Social Housing program.

Building Conditions

- Improve housing quality and health outcomes for Chicago renters by advancing passage of a Working Group Ordinance that would lay the groundwork for a proactive rental inspection program and comprehensive rental registry, in partnership with the Chicago Healthy Homes Coalition.
- Strengthen enforcement and remediation of troubled rental buildings by improving accountability for code violations and the speed and reliability of repairs to ensure safer, more stable housing for tenants and owner-occupants.

Fair and Equitable Housing

- Increase affordability in Illinois’ highest-cost municipalities by advocating for amendments to the Affordable Housing Planning and Appeals Act (AHPAA) that would expand the number of municipalities subject to the law’s planning requirements, increase enforcement through a stronger appeals process, and clarify the referral process to the Attorney General for non-compliance.
- Reduce racial inequities and improve fairness in Cook County’s property tax system by advancing policy reforms that would promote stability and affordability for low- and moderate-income homeowners, including reform of the property tax sale and assessment appeals systems.

Reimagining Public Safety

- End the Chicago Police Department's (CPD) use of pretextual traffic stops and suspicion-less searches in Chicago through Consent Decree mandates and department policy change.
- Expand our statewide education campaign focused on creating a more racially equitable system of traffic safety in Illinois.
- Expand and strengthen alternative responses to mental health crises, nuisance, and other low-risk 911 calls.

Delivering on the Promise of Police Reform

- Ensure CPD's meaningful compliance with the Consent Decree by advancing accountability for progress on key, community-informed mandates.
- Strengthen civilian oversight of policing by evaluating the effectiveness of Chicago's existing oversight system and publishing recommendations to drive local change and inform national best practices.
- Promote transparency and accountability in CPD's collaboration with federal law enforcement by advocating for clear policies and timely, public investigations.
- Expand public participation in police governance by empowering Chicagoans to engage in the 2027 District Councilor elections.
- Advance the effective implementation of Illinois' officer decertification system by providing policy analysis and strategic guidance on legislative improvements.
- Assess and advance enforcement of Illinois' citation-in-lieu-of-arrest laws.

Healing the Harms of Mass Incarceration

- Reduce Illinois' prison population by advancing sentencing reforms that would expand opportunities for earned and early release.
- Support policies and initiatives that limit prison expansion in Illinois and promote community-based alternatives to incarceration.
- Promote lawful and effective retroactive sentencing reform by disseminating clear legal guidance on retroactivity and broadening understanding among policymakers, advocates, and impacted communities.
- Advocate with the Clean Slate Coalition for sustained legislative appropriations and administrative support to implement the Illinois Clean Slate Act, establishing an automated process for sealing and expunging eligible criminal records.

Impact for Equity

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