

# PEOPLE'S UNITY PLATFORM

## *Mayoral Forum Program*



**Thursday, January 26, 6pm**

# *About Us*

**People's Unity Platform is a city-wide multi-racial coalition of neighborhood, community organizations, and labor unions that have been working on issues around violence prevention, public health and safety, housing, public education, air and environmental quality, community safety, and worker's rights.**

**[www.PeoplesUnityPlatform.com](http://www.PeoplesUnityPlatform.com)**

# ***Tonight's Program***

**6:00 Doors Open**

**6:30 Welcome and Opening**

**6:55 Opening Statements from Mayoral Candidates**

**7:00 First Round of Candidate Questions**

*For each topic we will hear from an impacted community leader, ask a question to the candidate and the candidate will have time to respond (10 minutes per topic)*

- **Public Safety and Violence Prevention**
- **Housing**
- **Public Health and Safety**
- **Environment**
- **Workers Rights**
- **Education**

**8:00 Lightning Round Questions to Candidates**

**8:20 Commitments**

**8:25 Closing**

**8:30 Program Ends**

# VIOLENCE PREVENTION

*We are united to reduce violence and create neighborhoods to be safe. There are several key pieces of the platform that will help move us toward creating that safety.*

**Divest from Shot Spotter** - Shot Spotter is a surveillance system that blankets Black and brown neighborhoods with microphones. The company that sells the surveillance system claims the microphones are able to distinguish the sound of gunfire from other noises and identify its location to dispatch police. However, multiple studies have shown that the shot spotter system is incredibly inaccurate with a 90% miss rate and instead only resulting in an increase in racial profiling.

**End the Gang Database** - Chicago police maintain two massive gang databases, collectively labeling more than 280,000 people as "gang members." CPD does not require any evidence to support a gang designation, they do not have to make an arrest, or even inform you that you've been placed in the database. Yet once your name has been added, you cannot be removed. CPD itself has been unable to explain how this gang database makes communities "safe," even after investigations by the The City of Chicago Office of Inspector General's office reported several faulty and inaccurate practices by CPD in its use of the database. Even with all that, the data compiled in the database is shared with over 500 agencies, including Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the FBI.

# VIOLENCE PREVENTION

**Invest in Peacebook** - The Peace Book Ordinance would establish the Peace Book, a public safety resource that informs communities about the Peace Book Commission. The Commission includes approved peacekeepers, violence interrupters, mediators, circle-keepers, and restorative justice practitioners. The Peace Book also provides a directory of services and programs for youth and families.

**Reparations for Survivors of Police Torture** - Move forward the construction of the delayed memorial for the victims of police torture that happened under the command of Chicago Police Department (CPD) Commander Jon Burge, over 120 people, predominantly African-American men, were tortured from 1972-1991 and provide reparations to survivors.

# TREATMENT NOT TRAUMA

*We are united in making sure everyone has access to safe quality care every resident deserves. A key part of building that care infrastructure is moving to a Treatment Not Trauma model.*

**Treatment Not Trauma - For decades Chicago has been disinvesting in public mental health infrastructure. The Treatment Not Trauma model would reinvest in that infrastructure, reopen the city's closed mental health centers, and establish a non-police crisis response system similar to what exists in other cities. Research shows that people with untreated mental illness are 16 times more likely to be killed during a police encounter. Instead of relying on armed police for mental health care the Treatment Not Trauma model dispatches mental health professionals and an EMT to mental health emergency calls instead of police officers.**

# HOUSING

*We are united in making sure that everyone in Chicago has housing. We can move towards this by moving the Bring Chicago Home legislation.*

**Bring Chicago Home - There are over 65,000 Chicagoans experiencing homelessness. This includes people living on the streets, in shelters and doubled-up (people couch surfing with friends or family) with no place to call home. To tackle this crisis, we need the resources and revenue to do so. The Bring Chicago Home ordinance accomplishes this by implementing a real estate transfer tax on wealthy individuals and corporations buying properties over \$1 million. This funding would be used as dedicated funding for affordable housing combined with wraparound services.**

# END SACRIFICE ZONES

*We are united in making sure everyone has clean air, water, and a healthy environment. We can move towards this goal by ending the practice of deprioritizing health and safety by placing fast track industrial zones in Black, immigrant, and working-class communities.*

**End Sacrifice Zones - There are 24 industrial corridors in Black and brown communities across Chicago. Cumulative impact ordinance would prioritize health and safety of these areas; would “pump the brakes” of industries moving into these areas. Creates true safety because it prevents further environmental racism through land use and zoning.**



# WORKERS RIGHTS

*We are united in making sure that all workers have safe working conditions, their rights are respected, and make a living wage.*

**Rideshare Living Wage & Safety Ordinance - Gig workers, like all workers, deserve dignity and respect. The Rideshare Living Wage & Safety Ordinance would increase the income of rideshare drivers and improve safety conditions. Currently companies like Uber and Lyft do not to their due diligence to ensure the safety of drivers. Additionally the ordinance would extend worker protections that other categories of work receive and setup more transparency and accountability for employers including an appeals and due process for deactivations.**

# EDUCATION

*We are united by the fact that every child in Chicago deserves a quality education.*

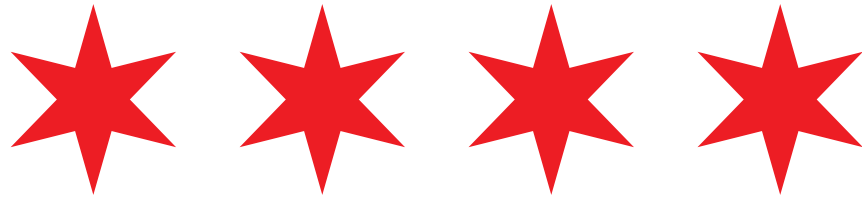
**Loving & Liberatory Schools - We are calling on whoever wins the 23 Mayoral election to move to fully fund Chicago public schools and ensure each and every school has the essentials students need to learn. A nurse and counselor in every school, appropriate class sizes and staff ratios, commitment to true sanctuary schools/welcoming city model, and incorporating a transformative curriculum.**

# *Thank you and acknowledgments:*

The People's Unity Platform would like to extend our gratitude to Pastor Hatch and the New Mt. Pilgrim MB Church family for warmly hosting us tonight, to Grassroots Collaborative for convening this city-wide coalition, to Danbee Kim for powerful illustrations of our platform, to the bus drivers for getting us here safely, to the interpreters, the childcare providers, the janitorial staff, to the photographers, videographers, and last but not least the organizers who are building the Chicago we deserve.

People's Unity Platform Coalition is: Grassroots Collaborative, ACRE, Action Now Institute, Black Lives Matter Chicago, Brighton Park Neighborhood Council, Chicago Coalition for the Homeless, Chicago Environmental Justice Network, Chicago Housing Initiative, Chicago Teachers Union, Chicago Torture Justice Center, Collaborative for Community Wellness, Defund CPD, Erase the Gang Database, Good Kids Mad City, IL Green New Deal Coalition, Jewish Council Urban Affairs, Live Free Illinois, Neighbors For Environmental Justice, One Northside, Organized Communities Against Deportation, People for Community Recovery, Raise Your Hand for Illinois Public Education, SEIU Healthcare, SEIU Local 73, Southeast Environmental Task Force, Southsiders Organized for Unity and Liberation (SOUL), Southside Together Organizing for Power (STOP), Stop Shot Spotter, Sunrise Movement Chicago Hub, The People's Lobby, United Working Families

**THE CHICAGO WE'RE FIGHTING FOR**



**EL CHICAGO QUE ESTAMOS LUCHANDO POR**

**CLICK ME!**

Register to vote  
and update info

**CLICK ME!**

Early voting info  
Opens Feb 13

**CLICK ME!**

Find your  
polling place

**Text "platform" to 708-350-7350**