

# PEOPLE'S UNITY PLATFORM

## VOTER GUIDE 2023 ELECTION





# PILLARS

## *of a Progressive Chicago*

We believe that a Progressive Chicago is one that supports those that are most marginalized, and implements tangible policy that cuts to the root of the economic and social disparities within this city.

We believe every Chicagoan deserves a safe and equitable city – one that serves all its residents.

### **BRING CHICAGO HOME ORDINANCE**

Housing is a Human Right, and we believe that everyone in Chicago should have stable housing. We can move towards this vision pushing forward on the Bring Chicago Home ordinance. In order to address homelessness in the City of Chicago we need 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 housing and homeless services.

### **TREATMENT NOT TRAUMA**

We are united in making sure everyone has access to safe and quality mental health care. For decades Chicago has been disinvesting in public mental health infrastructure. The Treatment Not Trauma model would re-open the publicly funded and operated mental health clinics 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.

### **RIDESHARE LIVING WAGE & SAFETY**

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.

### **CUMULATIVE IMPACTS ORDINANCE**

Everyone should have access to clean air, water, and a healthy environment. We can move towards this goal by ending the practice of deprioritizing the health and safety by placing fast track industrial zones in Black, immigrant, and working-class communities. There are 24 industrial corridors in Black and brown communities across Chicago called 'Sacrifice Zones'. A Cumulative Impact ordinance would prioritize health & safety of these areas; would "pump the brakes" of industries moving into these areas, and create true safety by preventing further environmental racism through land use and zoning.



## LOVING & LIBERATORY SCHOOLS

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 through a needs-based formula and ensure each and every school has the essentials students need to learn. At a minimum, we are demanding 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.

## VIOLENCE PREVENTION

*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.

*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.

*On January 26, 2023, we held a People's Unity Mayoral Forum that invited all of the mayoral candidates to address the needs of Chicago. Of the 9 candidates, we had 4 candidates elect to not show up for the People - Sophia King, Willie Wilson, Chuy Garcia, Lori Lightfoot.*

*Of those in attendance, the power of the people got 3 out of 5 candidates (Brandon Johnson, Ja'Mal Green, and Kam Buckner) to commit to supporting and pushing forward each of the 6 demands. 2 of the 5 candidates (Roderick Sawyer and Paul Vallas) committed to 5 out of 6 of the demands.*

*This is a huge win for the movement for a Progressive Chicago, but our work doesn't stop here. We need to continue to apply pressure and hold these electeds accountable to the commitments that made to the people.*



# THE PLATFORM'S COMMITMENTS

## HOUSING

Will you pass Bring Chicago Home in the first 100 days of office?



## PUBLIC SAFETY

Will legislate reparations for survivors of police torture who were tortured after 1991 by Burge's Disciples?



## PUBLIC HEALTH

Will you pass Treatment Not Trauma and move funds from police vacancies to fund it?



## WORKERS' RIGHTS

Will you pass the Rideshare Living Wage & Safety Ordinance?



## EDUCATION

Will you commit to having a librarian, social worker, and nurse in each school by the end of your term?



## CLIMATE

Will you support a Cumulative Impacts Ordinance that addresses environmental racism and protects the health of all Chicagoans?



# TAKE ACTION

Candidates for office have heard the demands of the People's Unity Platform loud and clear! We make these demands because we believe every Chicagoan deserves a safe and equitable city, one that serves all its residents.

We will need to keep taking action, no matter who wins! Here is what you can do to get our city leaders committed and to hold them accountable to their commitments:

- Research your candidates and go vote!
- Stay updated by texting "platform" to 708-350-7350 and following the People's Unity Platform on Instagram: @peoplesunityplatform
- Get ready to take action this spring by demanding change through these next steps:

## TREATMENT NOT TRAUMA

Take our Mental Health Crisis Support Survey.

## BRING CHICAGO HOME

Sign up to support Bring Chicago Home

## CLIMATE

Get involved in the fight for this ordinance

## PUBLIC SAFETY

Sign the petition to:

1. Abolish the Gang Database
2. Support the PeaceBook
3. Cancel the Shotspotter Contract

## WORKERS' RIGHTS

Support the Rideshare Living Wage and Safety Ordinance!

## EDUCATION

Get involved in the Green Schools Campaign

**STAY UPDATED BY TEXTING "PLATFORM" TO 708-350-7350 AND FOLLOWING THE @PEOPLESUNITYPLATFORM ON INSTAGRAM**

**CLICK ME!**  
Register to vote  
and update info

**CLICK ME!**  
Early voting info  
Opens Feb 13

**CLICK ME!**  
Find your  
polling place