

Chicago
Votes★

VOTER "GUIDEEEEEE"



It's non-
partisan!

**DON'T RUN OFF
BEFORE THE RUNOFF!**



Chicago★Votes



VOTING 101

TROUBLE AT THE POLLS?

If you are eligible to vote, you should never be turned away from the polls. For questions or any issues at the polls, the Election Protection hotline provides free non-partisan voting assistance from legal advocates, call 1 (866) OUR-VOTE or 1 (866) 687-8683.

DID YOU KNOW ...

In Illinois, you do NOT need to show identification to vote after you have voted the first time, nor should election workers ask you for ID. You can vote on Election Day or early, and in-person or by mail. In addition, you can also request your ballot and election materials in a non-English language!

HAVE A RECORD?

You have the right to vote in Illinois! You can cast a ballot if you are NOT currently serving a conviction inside a correctional institution or on temporary leave/furlough from prison!

VOTER REGISTRATION

Same Day Registration is available at all early voting sites and on Election Day. Voters must bring two forms of ID, with at least one that includes your current address.

EARLY VOTING

Beginning March 20th, anyone can vote at the Chicago Board of Elections downtown sites or at any of the Chicago 50 early voting locations.

VOTING ON ELECTION DAY

You can vote in person on Election Day at the precinct/polling location assigned based on your address or at the 50 early voting locations across the city.

VOTING BY MAIL

Your application to Vote By Mail must be received by 5:00 pm on March 30, 2023. Once you receive your ballot, fill it out and then mail it in, or put it in an official drop-box.

SCAN TO VIEW A LIST OF EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS



SCAN TO LOCATE YOUR PRECINCT POLLING PLACE

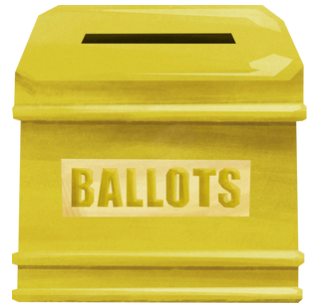


SCAN TO APPLY TO VOTE BY MAIL



DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN DROP YOUR BALLOT OFF AT A DROP BOX?!

As of 2020, Illinois allows you to drop your mail-in ballot at a secure drop-box outside of early voting and Election Day polling locations.



SOME WARDS HAVE ALDERPERSON RUNOFFS

If you live in the following wards, you have an alderperson runoff election: 1, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 21, 29, 30, 36, 43, 45, 46, and 48.

WHO IS CHICAGO VOTES?

Chicago Votes is a non-partisan, non-profit organization working at the intersection of activism, education, and politics in order to make democracy more inclusive, just, and accessible. We're engaging a new generation of leaders, changing laws to make Chicago and Illinois a better place to be young, and in the process, we're making democracy fun.

Learn more about our programming, paid positions, and volunteer opportunities at chicagovotes.com. Stay up to date with us on social media @chicagovotes.

HOW WE MADE THIS GUIDE

We asked candidates questions about issues that young people give a sh*t about. Answers are based on direct responses from candidates' campaigns.

To view the candidates' full responses, please visit the digital voter guide at chicagovotes.com/votecenter.

Paid for by Chicago Votes Action Fund (501c4)

THE LINEUP



BRANDON JOHNSON

HOMETOWN: Chicago, IL
(Austin)

***CURRENTLY
RESIDES IN:*** Austin
neighborhood

AGE: 46

PREVIOUS JOBS:

CPS social studies teacher ('07- '11), Chicago Teachers Union organizer ('11-'18), Cook County Commissioner ('18 - present)



PAUL VALLAS

HOMETOWN: Chicago, IL
(Roseland)

***CURRENTLY
RESIDES IN:*** Palos Heights

AGE: 69

PREVIOUS JOBS:

Illinois Economic and Fiscal Commission ('85-'90), Chicago municipal budget director ('90-'93), CEO of CPS (1995-2001), CEO of the School District of Philadelphia ('02-'07), Superintendent Recovery School District of Louisiana ('07-'11), Superintendent of Bridgeport Public Schools ('11-'17), Chicago State University ('17-'18)

ENDORSEMENTS

*Endorsements as of March 13, 2023. This is not a complete list of endorsements.

BRANDON JOHNSON

- 25th Ward IPO
- 30th United Chicago
- 39th Ward Neighbors United
- The People's Lobby
- People United for Action
- United Working Families
- United Northwest Side
- Girl, I Guess
- 48th Ward Neighbors for Justice
- Activate Chicago Parents
- Grassroots Illinois Action
- One People's Campaign
- Better Streets Chicago Action Fund
- Chicago Teachers Union
- SEIU Local 73
- SEIU Healthcare
- AFT Union
- Cook County College Teachers Union
- AFT Local 943
- West Suburban Teachers Union
- 11th Ward IPO
- Working Families Party
- State Senator Omar Aquino
- Alderperson Maria Hadden
- US Senator Elizabeth Warren
- US Senator Bernie Sanders
- US Congresswoman Delia Ramirez
- State Representative Lilian Jimenez
- State Representative Lakesia Collins
- State Representative Will Guzzardi
- Cook County Commissioner Anthony J Quezada
- Alderperson Daniel LaSpata
- Alderperson Jeanette Taylor
- Alderperson Byron Sigcho-Lopez
- Alderperson Rossana Rodríguez-Sanchez
- Alderperson Carlos Ramirez-Rosa
- Cook County Commissioner Josina Morita
- Cook County Commissioner Bill Lowry
- State Senator Cristina Pacione-Zayas
- Congressman Jonathan Jackson
- State Representative Mary Flowers
- Cook County Commissioner Stanley Moore
- State Senator Robert Peters
- Alderperson Matt Martin
- Alderperson Pat Dowell

PAUL VALLAS

- Alderperson Brian Hopkins
- Alderperson Anthony Napolitano
- Alderperson Brendan Reilly
- Alderperson Tom Tunney
- Alderperson Walter Burnett Jr. (endorsed Lightfoot in the first round),
- Alderperson Roderick Sawyer (mayoral candidate in the first round)
- Chicago Chapter Fraternal Order of Police
- International Union of Elevator Constructors Local
- LGBT Chamber of Commerce of Illinois
- Chicago Tribune
- Gazette Chicago



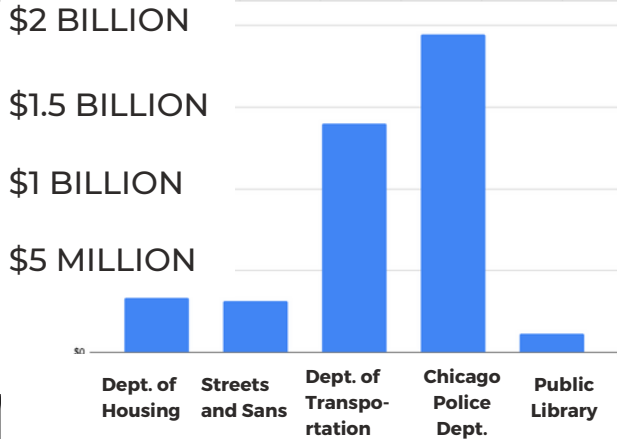


WHAT ROLES DO THE MAYOR AND ALDERPEOPLE HAVE OVER THE ELEMENTS IN THIS PHOTO?

The mayor is responsible for creating the city budget. The city budget determines how much money each city department will get.

Below are the amounts budgeted for select departments:

*Data from IGChicago.org



Additionally, 50 alderpeople make up the Chicago City Council, which serves as the legislative branch of the government of Chicago.

This is who votes on land acquisitions and sales, zoning changes, traffic control issues, mayoral appointees, and approves the city budget!



WHERE DO THE CANDIDATES STAND ON THE ISSUES?

PUBLIC SAFETY

How do you plan to protect and invest in Chicago's trans community?

Brandon Johnson believes that LGBTQ rights are human rights. He commits to:

- Ensuring that hate crimes against trans people are taken seriously and fully investigated.
- Fight to increase economic opportunities for trans and non-binary people,
- Investment in Chicago's trailblazing LGBTQ+ community.

Paul Vallas' plan relies primarily on increased police training, 911 call data, and more police. He also speaks to investing in temporary housing shelters and summer internships.

In June 2022, Paul Vallas spoke at a fundraiser for AWAKE Illinois, an anti-trans, anti-critical race theory, organization.

The Chicago Police budget accounts for 40% of the city's general operating budget. Please share your reactions to this current budget allocation.

Brandon Johnson will make sure we are investing in social programs and addressing the root causes of crime - such as poverty and inequality - and understanding how these investments will lead to more sustainable and effective public safety outcomes.

Paul Vallas is "against cutting the police budget at this time of generally high crime and violent crime."

What is your response to the current administration allowing Local School Councils to decide whether or not to keep School Resource Officer?

Brandon believes that "LSCs are composed of parents, teachers, and community members who have a vested interest in the education and safety of students. Giving them a voice in this decision could increase trust and accountability in the process."

Paul Vallas believes that "SROs are one component of an overall safety plan".

*Data from Injustice Watch

TRANSPORTATION

What are your plans to restore CTA frequency and ridership?

Brandon Johnson will prioritize increased service frequency and implement "a comprehensive approach that includes addressing equity concerns, improving service quality, collaborating with local partners, and embracing new technologies.

Paul Vallas will. . .

- Add 500 additional police officers
- Create phone apps to report crime and service issues
- Make Bus Rapid lanes
- Address staffing issues

Do you have a plan to equitably integrate biking into the public transit system? Please explain.

Brandon Johnson will expand bike infrastructure, provide bike parking, improve bike-transit connectivity, offer bike-transit incentives, and address equity concerns.

Paul Vallas supports a vision for 10% (450mi+) of Chicago streets to be bike and pedestrian prioritized. He makes no explicit mention of protected bike lanes.

ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Are you committed to making permanent the City's guaranteed income program that offers \$500 monthly checks to 5,000 of our neighbors?

Brandon Johnson is committed to making permanent the City's guaranteed income program.

Guaranteed income is the direct cash payment to community members below a certain income, with no strings attached.

Paul Vallas has *not* committed to supporting this program, but states "Universal basic income is an important piece of the safety net if implemented in a strategically targeted fashion."

HOUSING

Will you prioritize passing the Bring Chicago Home Ordinance in your first term?

Brandon Johnson is committed to passing the ordinance.

Paul Vallas has *not* committed to passing the ordinance as-is.

WHAT IS THE BRING CHICAGO HOME ORDINANCE?

Bring Chicago Home is a grassroots movement of Chicagoans committed to creating a dedicated revenue stream to combat homelessness in Chicago.

What is your plan to address the racially disproportionate displacement of Chicagoans as a result of gentrification?

Brandon Johnson believes in "a comprehensive approach that involves addressing affordable housing, tenant protections, economic development, equitable development, and community engagement."

Paul Vallas will "limit the amount of increases in taxes that can be imposed over a specified period of years to create a ramp rather than a cliff in tax consequences."

EDUCATION

Do you have a plan to ensure all students in CPS have access to trade and vocational education?

Brandon Johnson believes "ensuring all students in CPS have access to trade and vocational education will require a concerted effort by educators, policymakers, and community leaders." He plans to expand course offerings, partner with community colleges & technical schools, develop career pathways programs, and leverage funding and grants.

Paul Vallas "believes trade and vocational education should not only be available to all CPS students, but should be a part of the curriculum of all CPS students so that there is full exposure to all possible career paths and appreciation for the work of those who undertake such a career path."

What are your thoughts on private development & event closures in public parks, & green space equity in light of recently revealed "scheduling" issues w/ NASCAR closing Grant Park for weeks?

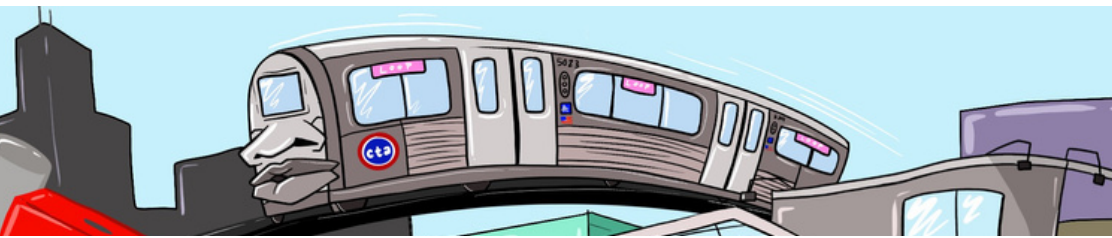
Brandon Johnson will develop guidelines or policies that prioritize public access to green spaces, or requiring private developers or event organizers to provide alternative green space or recreational opportunities for the community.

Paul Vallas is opposed. He is "vehemently opposed to anything of that nature without notice, input of community and proper legislative process as was done with respect to NASCAR."

What changes will you make to the current downtown park curfew impacting Chicagoans under 18?

Brandon Johnson believes that downtown belongs to all people, including our young people. "I would partner with parents, young people, and the community based organizations who service our city's youth to develop equitable strategies that make our youngest residents feel welcome"

Paul Vallas commits to "roll the curfew back to the levels prior to the reactive, ill-considered, overbroad and negligibly enforced ordinance constrictions instituted by the Lightfoot Administration."



IMPORTANT DATES

MARCH 20, 2023

First day Early Voting is available in all 50 wards and at the Chicago Board of Elections two downtown sites.



MARCH 30, 2023

The last day to request a vote-by-mail ballot for the April 4th runoff elections.

APRIL 4, 2023

Runoff Election Day! If you are returning a vote-by-mail ballot via mail, your ballot must be postmarked on or before Election Day.

MY ELECTIONS GAME PLAN

Before any big game there are some musts, like watching film and learning plays. Voting is no different; it also requires research and planning. Use the space below to make your elections game plan.

DATE:

POLLING PLACE:

CIRCLE ONE:

a. In Person b. Vote-by-Mail