



COOK COUNTY COMMISSION ON SOCIAL INNOVATION



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

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ALMA E. ANAYA

CHAIR

COOK COUNTY COMMISSION ON SOCIAL INNOVATION

December 9, 2019

Honorable President Toni Preckwinkle and Cook County Board of Commissioners:

It is my sincere pleasure to report on the Cook County Commission on Social Innovation. This year, the Commission has undergone a transformation. Seven new Commissioners have been appointed, several new committee members have joined, and all members of the Commission remain dedicated to advancing the purpose and vision with which the Commission was established three years ago.

In 2016, the Cook County Commission on Social Innovation was established to develop policy recommendations focused on strengthening the capacity of the inner city and Southland of Cook County. It has been my honor to continue this effort as the new Chair of the Commission.

The Commission on Social Innovation brings together government officials from Cook County and the City of Chicago and partners who lead in social entrepreneurship, economic development, philanthropic investment, research, and nonprofits.

The Commission meets on a monthly basis, as a whole, and Commission members join external partners in meetings of the four standing committees of the Commission: The Committee on Intellectual Capital, The Committee on Financial Capital, The Committee on Social & Human Capital, and The Committee on Public Capital.

The attached report details the research goals guiding the work of each committee and provides an overview of the strides made to advance the work of the Commission on Social Innovation in its third year.

I encourage your review of this report and appreciate your feedback.

Sincerely,

Alma E. Anaya
Chair, Cook County Commission on Social Innovation

CC:

Honorable Brandon Johnson, 1st District

Honorable Dennis Deer, 2nd District

Honorable Bill Lowry, 3rd District

Honorable Stanley Moore, 4th District

Honorable Deborah Sims, 5th District

Honorable Donna Miller, 6th District

Honorable Luis Arroyo, Jr., 8th District

Honorable Peter N. Silvestri, 9th District

Honorable Bridget Gainer, 10th District

Honorable John P. Daley, 11th District

Honorable Bridget Degnen, 12th District

Honorable Larry Suffredin, 13th District

Honorable Scott R. Britton, 14th District

Honorable Kevin B. Morrison, 15th District

Honorable Jeffery R. Tobolski, 16th District

Honorable Sean M. Morrison, 17th District

2019 Members of the Commission on Social Innovation

ALMA E. ANAYA

7TH DISTRICT COOK COUNTY COMMISSIONER, CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION ON SOCIAL INNOVATION

MARC J. LANE

ATTORNEY AT LAW, VICE CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION ON SOCIAL INNOVATION

RODGER COOLEY

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CHICAGO FOOD POLICY ACTION COUNCIL

VICTOR DICKSON

PRESIDENT AND CEO, SAFER FOUNDATION

XOCHITL ESPINOSA

FOUNDER, THE CO-OP ED CENTER

XOCHITL FLORES

CHIEF, COOK COUNTY BUREAU OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ANA GUAJARDO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CENTRO DE TRABAJADORES UNIDOS

MARIA HADDEN

49TH WARD ALDERMAN, CITY OF CHICAGO

CHRISTYN FREEMON

FOUNDER & CHIEF SOLUTIONIST, PROJECT FORWARD

MIKE HOBBS

ENGINEERED GLASS PRODUCTS

MARC LOVELESS

FOUNDING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COALITION FOR JUSTICE AND RESPECT

HOWARD MALES

PRESIDENT, RESEARCH PROS

MORGAN MALONE

POLICY ANALYST, CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION

KARIN NORINGTON-REAVES

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, CHICAGO COOK WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP

WENDY RAYMER

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS, BMO HARRIS

HAROLD RICE

PRESIDENT AND CEO, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION OF COOK COUNTY (CEDA)

CARRIE THOMAS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CHICAGO JOBS COUNCIL

JOHN YONAN

SUPERINTENDENT, COOK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND HIGHWAYS

GERI AGLIPAY

NATIONAL MANAGER AT SMALL BUSINESS MAJORITY

SOL ANDERSON

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LIFT-CHICAGO

PATRICK BRUTUS

CITY OF CHICAGO COORDINATOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – BUREAU OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, SPECIAL SERVICE AREA DIVISION

KRISTI DE LAURENTIIS

SOUTH SUBURBAN MAYORS AND MANAGERS ASSOCIATION, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Background

In April 2016, the Cook County Board of Commissioners enacted Ordinance #19-1382, establishing the Cook County Commission on Social Innovation to address issues of unemployment, economic distress and disparities in the inner city and Southland of Cook County.

The Ordinance was entitled: The Cook County Commission on Social Innovation for Job Creation, Workforce Development, Entrepreneurship, Community Revitalization, and Industrial Development.

The Commission was to be known as the “Cook County Commission on Social Innovation.”

“Social Innovation” is defined by the ordinance as:

“(a) novel solutions to social problems which are more effective, efficient, sustainable, or just compared to current solutions, for which the value created accrues primarily to society rather than to private individuals, and
(b) ideas that promote public, private, and philanthropic collaboration in order to create positive effects on areas with economic challenges.”

The purpose of the Commission is explained within the text of the ordinance as follows:

“The commission shall make actionable policy recommendations to help achieve the following purposes:

- (1) To strengthen the capacity of the inner city and the Southland and, generally, of the County to work cooperatively with relevant stakeholders to create, scale, and sustain innovative social programs;
- (2) To build the capacity of nonprofit organizations and government to pursue entrepreneurial ventures in the inner city and the Southland and in the County; and
- (3) To attract investment and philanthropic funding to the inner city and the Southland and to the County to support these ventures.”

Furthermore, the goals of the Commission were summarized in the following clause:

“The commission shall serve as (1) a resource for the County’s agencies and departments in common cause to promote the Southland’s and the County’s data-driven social innovation ecosystem in collaboration with other relevant actors; and (2) the County’s social innovation laboratory, convening a broad and diverse array of interests and expertise within and across sectors to facilitate cooperation and the co-creation of innovative solutions to social problems.

HIGHLIGHTS IN THE HISTORY OF THE COMMISSION

February 2017 Resolution to Conduct a Study of the Feasibility Study of Cross-Rail

- This resolution sought to conduct a feasibility study of the Metra Electric rail through the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways (DOTH) to understand ways to work with CTA and Pace to improve access to transportation and employment for residents living in the south and west sides.
- This year, DOTD Superintendent John Yonan presented an update to the Commission on Social Innovation. The study had been completed and an equity- focused pilot project is growing out of the study results to improve transit service for south Cook County residents by changing fare policies, increasing service on the Metra Electric Line, and improving coordination between Metra, Pace, and the CTA.

October 2017 The Cook County Social Enterprise Ordinance

- Through this legislation contractors who include re-entry programs in competitive bids for County contracts were made eligible to receive earned credit incentives. This legislation also provided incentivization for contractors with veteran preference programs and direct incentives to veteran-owned businesses that bid for County contracts.

May 2018 Good Food Purchasing Program Resolution

- With this resolution, Cook County became the first County in the United States to pass legislation on Good Food. The legislation is recognized for its focus on equity and nutrition, prioritizing incentives, support for local economies, value given to the rights of food chain workers and producers, and animal welfare.
- Through this legislation a Taskforce was formed which currently operates through the Cook County Department of Public Health. The Taskforce meets quarterly to decide how to implement the Good Food Purchasing Program in Cook County Government and beyond.

August 2018 The Chicagoland Cooperative Ecosystem Coalition Resolution

- This resolution sought to strengthen worker cooperatives in Cook County.
- Through this legislation the Cook County Bureau of Economic Development was directed to: develop recommendations for using community development block grant (CDBG) funding and other appropriate sources of funding to support local worker cooperatives, strengthen existing organizations that are incubating and training worker cooperatives in Cook County, and help to equip other organizations to provide such services.

2019 Overview

A New Commission Chair:

This year Cook County Commissioner Alma E. Anaya, representative of the 7th District of the County, became Chair of the Commission on Social Innovation.

Chair Anaya has appointed seven new commissioners and has seen the participation of several new committee members. Chair Anaya developed a strategy to ensure that appointed members reflected diverse sectors of economic and workforce development.

Prioritizing Equity:

This year's Commission meetings launched with a focus on equity to align efforts with President Preckwinkle's Policy Roadmap. Many meetings of the Commission include presentations by subject matter experts whose expertise may inform the research and policy recommendations of Commissioners. This year, our first two meetings were centered around presentations about equity.

In addition, the Commission produced the report Equity in Cook County and submitted it as an official document of the Commission to the County Board in September of this year.

Also, in 2019, the Commission on Social Innovation voiced support for Cook County Government to create an Office of Equity. Moreover, Commissioners within the Committee on Social & Human Capital created an Inclusive Employment Rubric to ensure equity in hiring.

Ensuring Transparency:

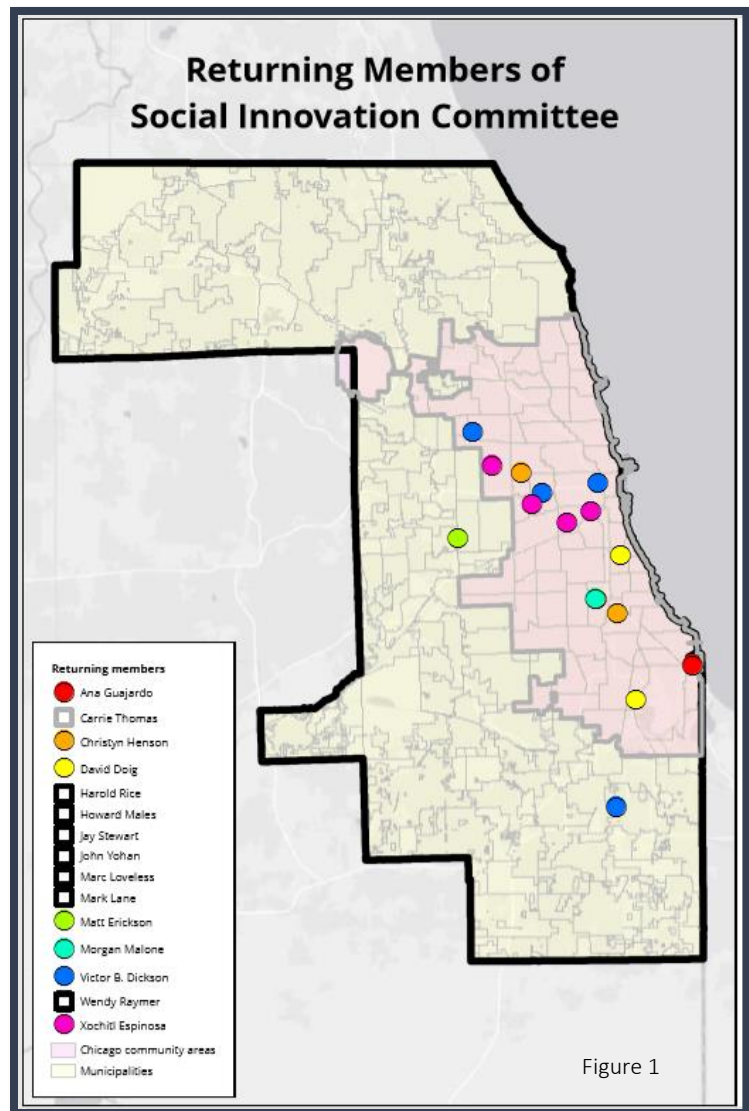
As Chair, Commissioner Anaya also sought to expand transparency in the work of the Commission. All Commission members are asked to participate in an Open Meetings Act training. Public access to all meetings of the Commission and committees has been prioritized.

Commissioner Anaya has also expanded communication between the Office of the Chair and the members of the Commission by conducting member surveys, producing clearly outlined expectations with Commissioners to craft the Commissioner's Guide.

Commissioner Anaya has also sought to improve communication in the Commission by asking Committee Chairs for committee meeting reports at every meeting of the full Commission to ensure that all members of the Commission are aware of each other's current work and research endeavors.

NEW MEMBER CONSIDERATIONS

Social Innovation Commission members were appointed by the Chair in accordance with the legislative mandates listed in the establishing ordinance (see Appendix), and through a process developed by Commissioner Anaya. Commissioner Anaya asked all Commissioners appointed by the previous chair to express whether they would be renewing their membership on the Commission. Commissioner Anaya's Office then coordinated with the Cook County Geographic Information Systems Office (GIS) to map out the geographic service-areas of renewing Commission members, as illustrated in **Figure 1**. The Commissioner's Office used the maps created by GIS, alongside surveys of the Commission members to create an overview of the fields of work and service areas represented by Commissioners. These tools were used to identify where representation was needed geographically, in expertise, and/or in services provided. Commissioner Anaya then sought to fill vacancies on the Commission through a process of nominations of the Commission. Commissioner Anaya interviewed all nominees and made appointment decisions based on needs identified using the aforementioned GIS tools and surveys.



COMMITTEE MEMBER ADDITIONS

Committee Chairs lead the Committees of the Commission on Social Innovation. Each Committee Chair was appointed or re-appointed by Commissioner Anaya. Committee members were added to committees through the invitation of the Committee Chairs or by an invitation from the Chair of the Commission.

The Committee on Financial Capital

The Committee on Financial Capital was established to find ways to be a partner with the Bureau of Economic Development as a platform for efforts that aim to maximize opportunities for enhancing economic empowerment throughout Cook County.



COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair:

Wendy Raymer

Members:

Ana Guajardo*

Xochitl Espinosa*

Christyn Freeman*

Harold Rice*

Xochitl Flores*

Muhammad Elahi

Naral Eusufzai

David Doig

Gretchen Kleinert

**Social Innovation Commissioners*

STRATEGIC GOALS

The Financial Capital Committee would like to spend the year ahead developing plans for the County to Leverage Opportunity Zone funding.

As such, two presenters – the Clerk of the City of Chicago, Anna Valencia, and the Financial Capital Committee’s Christyn Freeman were invited to give presentations to the Commission to help us understand benefits and issues to consider with Opportunity Zones. They explained that “Opportunity Zone” is a designation of particular census tracts; created through a federal act which allows governors to choose low-income tracts in their states that could be assisted through investment and development.

The committee will be examining equity in policies associated with the commercial and industrial tax incentives available in opportunity zones.

The committee is hoping to focus on the Lincoln Highway Logistics Corridor Opportunity Zone for redevelopment near the many County assets that surround the corridor. The Committee will be exploring a marketing plan to further publicize the Lincoln Highway Logistics Corridor and any other opportunities or benefits for investors looking to develop in the south suburbs.

The committee also wants to help business owners understand when and how to reach out to government for tax incentives and resource

The Committee on Social and Human Capital

MERGING TWO COMMITTEES

The Social Innovation Commission conducted a structural planning meeting and surveyed commissioners on the workflow and structure of the Commission. Commissioners indicated in the surveys and meeting that a consolidation of the number of committees may allow for greater focus on each committee's projects. As such the chair identified the committees with greatest potential to synergize their operations. It was decided that the Committee on Social Capital and the Committee on Human Capital could effectively combine their efforts, as such the committees were merged. The new Social and Human Capital committee works to build sustainable centers of economic development, employment and engagement that provide socio-economic advancement to the most disinvested residents & communities in Cook County.



COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair:

Rodger Cooley

Members:

Sol Anderson *

Olga Bautista

David Cherry

Victor Dickson *

Maria Hadden *

Marc Loveless *

Karin Norrington-Reaves *

Carrie Thomas *

**Social Innovation Commissioners*

STRATEGIC GOALS

The Social and Human Capital Committee will be working on several initiatives in the coming year. The Committee will build off of the Inclusive Employment Rubric initially developed in 2018. They will research how it can be implemented in the County, and potential legislation for ensuring the application of the rubric. The Committee will also highlight the success of inclusive practices to share with the public the potential of the rubric.

Additionally, the Committee will research several ideas for preparing Cook County communities, institutions, organizations, and governmental entities for the next potential economic recession with a focus on supporting resiliency and improving the recovery time for communities. To do this, the committee will research the areas, sectors, and communities most affected by the 2009 recession and review recession preparation case studies.

The committee is exploring research tools available through the Federal and Reserve and Center on Budget Policy Priorities.

The Committee will also look to expand leveraging Cook County procurement for supporting equitable economic development through food, services, goods, and other vehicle.

The Committee on Public Capital

The Committee on Public Capital works to promote social innovation by finding solutions through the County's zoning and transportation levers.



COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Interim Chair:

John Yonan *

Members:

Patrick Brutus *

Kristi DeLaurentiis *

Clayton Harris

**Social Innovation Commissioners*

STRATEGIC GOALS

The Public Capital Committee will be spending the year ahead working in collaboration with the Financial Capital Committee on Lincoln Highway Logistics Corridor development project. The Lincoln Highway Logistics Corridor Strategic Plan identifies 21 vacant or underutilized sites that may be ideally positioned for redevelopment with access to transportation and rail hubs. Public Capital Committee will assist with acquisition of permits and provide support for identified infrastructure needs.

In addition, this committee is focused on supporting the work of the Fair Transit for South Cook County pilot project being led by the Department of Transportation and Highways. The pilot project objective is to “provide better transit service for south Cook County residents by changing fare policies, increasing service on the Metra Electric Line, and improving coordination between Metra, Pace, and the CTA.” The idea for this plan has been developed in part through the Public Capital Committee of the Commission on Social Innovation as a long-standing goal throughout the past three years.

The Committee on Intellectual Capital

The Committee on Intellectual Capital was established to make government data more accessible and useful for public life. The Committee explores ways to measure the impact of the Commission and design comparative standards between it and other County entities.



COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair:

Morgan Malone *

Members:

Matt Erickson

Howard Males *

Nolan Mims

Todd Schuble

Stephen Taylor

Sharon Welch

Michael Woyan

**Social Innovation Commissioners*

STRATEGIC GOALS

The Intellectual Capital Committee is focused on being the operations powerhouse behind the Commission which includes performance management strategies and accessible government data and transparency tools for the County. In addition, the committee contributes to transformative economic development efforts by taking on projects that act as enabling mechanisms for the execution of larger Commission initiatives.

Intellectual Capital Committee Projects are:

- Public & Transparent
- Supporting Cook County
- Inclusive
- Data Driven
- Action-based
- Enabling for Larger County Action

COMMITTEE INITIATIVES INCLUDE

Reviewing past presenters to date and creating a form to synthesize presentations to educate the public and elected officials on some of the most innovative ideas that have come before the Commission. Presentations that the Committee would recommend to the public will be archived, past and present, and past presenters will be followed up with to see how we can share their work with the public and leaders in County government. From there, the Committee will be running a public engagement campaign to corral the best ideas from across the County to continue to expand the Commission's knowledge base and work efforts.

The Participatory Governance Toolbox project dives into the experience of government and how we can best meet County citizens where they're at and make County government more accessible. From the way we name and frame issues, to the way we hold townhall meetings, to the way elected officials engage constituents and beyond, the goal is to create a thoughtful toolbox dissecting civic life over the next year for use by elected officials and government agencies alike. This toolbox will help us build public trust and work towards the ability to make tough economically impactful decisions with consensus and public good faith.

Outlook

The new perspectives that have been brought to the Commission and the ambitious goals of the Committees, outlined in the pages above, brings us great hope and significant excitement for the impact this Commission can bring about in the coming year. We look forward to the new legislative and community-based actions that the Cook County Commission on Social Innovation will bring to empower the inner-city and South Suburbs in 2020 and beyond.

Acknowledgements

This report was composed by the Office of the Chair, Commissioner Alma E. Anaya. Committee Chairs Rodger Cooley, Morgan Malone, John Yonan and Wendy Raymer also reviewed and contributed to sections of the report.

Appendix

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PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

ESTABLISHING THE COOK COUNTY COMMISSION ON SOCIAL INNOVATION FOR JOB CREATION, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, ENTREPRENEURSHIP, COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION, AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, the municipalities throughout Cook County, including inner-city Chicago and those comprising the Chicago Southland, are facing high unemployment and other economic challenges; and

WHEREAS, high levels of economic distress in the aforementioned areas have been reported in the *Distressed Community Index* from Washington D.C. based, Economic Innovation Group, that shows high levels of inequality; and

WHEREAS, people throughout Cook County are urgently seeking knowledge-based, innovation-driven solutions to social problems relating to education, health care, unemployment, and poverty.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Cook County Board of Commissioners that Chapter 14 Community Development, Article IX, sections 14-89 through 14-97 of the Cook County Code, is hereby enacted as follows:

Sec. 14-89. Short title

This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Ordinance Establishing the Cook County Commission on Social Innovation."

Sec. 14-90. Declaration

The County Board hereby establishes the Cook County Commission on Social Innovation.

Sec. 14-91. Definitions

The following words and terms shall have the meanings set forth in this section, except where otherwise specifically indicated:

Board of Commissioners or County Board means the Board of Commissioners for Cook County, Illinois *Commission* means the Cook County Commission on Social Innovation created by this ordinance. *Chairperson* means the chairperson of the Cook County Commission on Social Innovation.
County means Cook County, Illinois.

Cook County Code means the Code of Ordinances of Cook County, Illinois.

Inner City means any area within a municipality's boundaries that is facing economic challenges economically distressed, especially an area of high unemployment.

Members means members of the Cook County Commission on Social Innovation.

Ordinance means this ordinance creating the Cook County Commission on Social Innovation.

Social Innovation means (a) novel solutions to social problems which are more effective, efficient, sustainable, or just compared to current solutions, for which the value created accrues primarily to society rather than to private individuals, and (b) ideas that promote public, private, and philanthropic collaboration in order to create positive effects on areas with economic challenges. *Southland* includes, but is not limited to the south-side of Chicago, the South incorporated municipalities of Suburban Cook County, and the unincorporated areas of South Suburban Cook County.

Sec. 14-92. Purpose

The purpose of this ordinance is to create the Cook County Commission on Social Innovation, which shall engage in the following activities:

(a) The commission shall make actionable policy recommendations to help achieve the following purposes:

(1) To strengthen the capacity of the inner city and the Southland and, generally, of the County to work cooperatively with relevant stakeholders to create, scale, and sustain innovative social programs;

(2) To build the capacity of nonprofit organizations and government to pursue entrepreneurial ventures in the inner city and the Southland and in the County; and

(3) To attract investment and philanthropic funding to the inner city and the Southland and to the County to support these ventures.

(b) The commission shall advise the County Board and the heads of the County's agencies and departments.

(c) The commission shall gather empirical information on social innovation, social entrepreneurship, and social enterprise.

(d) The commission shall receive and consider reports and testimony from individuals, government departments, community-based organizations, nonprofit organizations, foundations, and other public and private organizations (whether or not based in the County) about how social innovation and entrepreneurship can accelerate progress on social issues, work cross-sector, and advance social and economic development goals.

(e) The commission shall identify promising strategies that have been used in other communities, counties, states and countries to encourage cross-sector collaboration on social issues.

(f) The commission shall identify useful strategies to educate and train citizens, nonprofit organizations, governments, students, and businesses on entrepreneurial concepts specifically as applied in the social sector.

(g) The commission shall serve as (1) a resource for the County's agencies and departments in common cause to promote the Southland's and the County's data-driven social innovation ecosystem in collaboration with other relevant actors; and (2) the County's social innovation laboratory, convening a broad and diverse array of interests and expertise within and across sectors to facilitate cooperation and the co-creation of innovative solutions to social problems.

Sec. 14-93. Compliance with law

As a body empowered by the Cook County Board, the Cook County Commission on Social Innovation shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws, rules, regulations and orders.

Sec. 14-94. Chairperson and committee membership

The Cook County Commission on Social Innovation shall consist of the following persons who shall serve as commissioners each of whom shall reside within the corporate boundaries of Cook County and shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed by the County for reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of commission duties:

(a) The Chair and/or Vice-Chair of the County Board's Business and Economic Development Committee, who shall serve as the commission's Chairperson.

(b) A Vice Chairperson designated by the Chairperson who shall be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the commission.

(c) The Executive Director of the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association or his or her designee. (d) The Bureau Chief of the Cook County Bureau of Economic Development or his or her designee.

(e) The Chair of the Cook County Economic Development Advisory Committee or his or her designee.

(f) The Superintendent of the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways or his or her designee.

(g) A mayor or manager of a municipality in the Southland, to be designated by the Chairperson as a member of the commission.

(h) Up to twenty (20) other persons appointed by the Chairperson who shall represent the diversity of the County and reflect the various disciplines necessary or desirable to ensure the commission's success.

Sec. 14-95. Term of office; vacancies

(a) The term of each commissioner designated under subsections 14-94(a) through (h) shall coincide with his or her term of public office if such commissioner is the officeholder, or with the term of public office of the designating officeholder if such commissioner is the designee.

(b) Vacancies on the commission shall be filled in the same manner that original appointments are made and shall be filled for the unexpired term of the commissioner whose place has become vacant.

Sec. 14-96. Quorum requirement

A quorum, being a majority of the commissioners then in office, shall be necessary in order to conduct all hearings of the Cook County Commission on Social Innovation.

Sec. 14-97. Operations

(a) The commission shall meet at least once per month.

(b) The commissioners, under the direction of the Chairperson, shall organize themselves into committees and subcommittees, which may be permanent or ad hoc. Committees and subcommittees may include, as non-voting members, members of the public and relevant subject matter experts who are not commissioners.

(c) The Chairperson of the commission shall appoint the chairperson of each committee.

(d) The chairperson of each committee shall appoint the chairperson of each subcommittee within the jurisdiction of that committee.

(e) Meetings of each committee or subcommittee shall be held at intervals determined by the chairperson of the respective committee or subcommittee.

(f) The commission may receive donations of money, labor, services, or other things of value from any public or private agency or person.

(g) The commission shall respond to assignments from County agencies and County departments in a timely fashion and shall submit reports to the County Board at least annually. Such reports shall address the plans, actions, and resources needed to achieve the commission's purposes.

(h) The commission shall serve as a research organization for the County Board regarding social issues, incubating proposed solutions to social problems, and advancing them for further consideration and, upon approval, for implementation. The goals of such collaboration shall include cooperation in prototyping or modeling innovative social solutions, field-testing such solutions, and evaluating their results to ensure that such solutions are practicable and to reduce the risks associated with their implementation.

(i) All aspects of the commission's work shall be governed by the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1 to 120/7.5, and by the Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/1 to 140/11.5. Members of the public shall be encouraged to attend and constructively participate in the commission's meetings.

Effective date: This ordinance shall be in effect immediately upon adoption.