



**Statement on Alderpersons' Alternative Budget Proposal
December 2, 2025**

We are encouraged by the alternative budget proposal the City Council today presented to Mayor Johnson. At a time when our city is facing fiscal crisis, it is critical that our leaders come together in a “one table” approach and a spirit of collaboration to make tough choices to ensure Chicago is on a path to long-term financial stability and much-needed growth. While the alderpersons’ proposal does not include every measure we and other stakeholders may have wanted, we strongly commend their unequivocal removal of the job-killing head tax, commitment to making the full advance pension payment, commitment to reduce the amount we borrow for operating expenses, and willingness to look to the many efficiencies identified by the EY report before asking already-stretched taxpayers to pay more. The Civic Committee of the Commercial Club of Chicago has a long history of partnering with the public sector to address our city’s challenges and our team was happy to consult on some of the difficult questions alderpersons, other civic organizations, non-profit and labor leaders, and other government and civic stakeholders had to consider when developing and informing this proposal. Chicago tackles our most daunting obstacles by working together. There is still a lot of work to do and we look forward to continuing to engage and advocate for responsible choices.