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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 21, 2017

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CITY COUNCIL APPROVES MAYOR EMANUEL'S 2018 BUDGET

*Balanced Budget Supports Investments in Public Safety Improvements,
Additional Resources for Chicago's Youth & Continued Neighborhood Services*

The Chicago City Council today passed Mayor Rahm Emanuel's 2018 Budget that makes significant investments in public safety, Chicago's youth, mass transit infrastructure improvements and neighborhood services. The 2018 Budget passed 47 to 3.

"Now in 2018, we can confidently increase investments in public safety, public education and quality neighborhoods because we have been disciplined in our public finances," said Mayor Emanuel. "This budget allows us to continue to work towards a brighter future for all Chicagoans, especially the children and young people who are growing up here and will inherit this great city that we love."

The 2018 budget does not include any new citywide general tax increases, with the budget primarily balanced through government reforms and improved fiscal management. For example, the City will save over \$19 million through cost cutting and government reform efforts and will generate \$10 million through improved debt collection. Additionally by securing lower interest rates on existing debt, the City will generate over \$94 million in savings for taxpayers in 2018 alone.

The City of Chicago's 2018 budget invests in public safety improvements by infusing the Chicago Police Department (CPD) with more manpower, technology and training. This budget supports the second contingent of new officers, which completes the Mayor's plan to grow CPD by nearly 1,000 officers. Further, the CPD district nerve centers will be expanded to six more districts: 2 (Wentworth), 3 (Grand Crossing), 4 (South Chicago), 5 (Calumet), 8 (Chicago Lawn), and 25 (Grand Central). In 2017, the districts that housed this technology saw a combined 23 percent reduction in shootings, outpacing the citywide reduction. The budget also includes \$27 million for new staffing, training and resources to implement police reforms – a \$24 million increase over the 2017 budget.

Additionally, Chicago's aging 911 system will be modernized to meet the state-mandated Next Generation 911 system requirements. This upgrade, made possible through a long-expected increase in the 911 fee, will improve coordination among first responders and provide for text and photo capabilities.

In 2018, the City will increase investments in youth for the seventh consecutive year. Under this budget, after school programming will be expanded by more than 15 percent to serve an additional 15,000 students. Other youth investments include:

- The addition of Safe Passage routes to 10 new schools, allowing the program to serve a record 80,000 children.
- The expansion of in youth mentoring programs like Becoming a Man and Working on Womanhood, a step toward achieving the Mayor's goal of universal mentoring for young men and women in high crime areas.
- The creation of five new early education centers to compliment the programming in Chicago's libraries, allowing more young children to access quality early education.

The 2018 budget passed today also invests in Chicago's neighborhoods. Through the modernization of Chicago's 311 system, residents will be able to text, email or tweet service requests like tree trimming, pothole repairs or graffiti removal; track those requests in real-time; and have interactive communication with 311. To support clean and healthy neighborhoods, the budget also expands rodent control and rodent abatement service, adding five more crews dedicated to rodent baiting along with funding for a total of more than 30,000 black garbage carts throughout the City. To help support local cultural institutions, the budget eliminates the amusement tax for neighborhood theaters and music venues that provide the arts and culture that make Chicago's neighborhoods great places to call home.

The budget also includes a first-of-its-kind infrastructure investment. To ensure the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) can continue to invest in infrastructure upgrades to its train and bus lines, Chicago will become the first city in the nation to institute a fee on the rideshare industry dedicated specifically to mass transit and mass transit improvements. Beginning in 2018, Chicago will start collecting an additional 15 cent per ride tax on rideshare trips, which is expected to generate \$16 million annually. The CTA will leverage this \$16 million to support \$179 million in mass transit improvements including repairing train slow zones and modernizing security technology.

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