



CITY OF CHICAGO • OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **CITY COUNCIL APPROVES SUSIE PARK AS NEW BUDGET DIRECTOR**

The Chicago City Council today approved Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot's appointment of Susie Park as the new Budget Director for the City of Chicago. Park, who previously worked in the City's Budget Office, will oversee a \$10.7 billion annual budget, which includes the City's general operating fund, special revenue funds, enterprise funds and more than \$1.8 billion in grant funding.

"Susie's experience with managing complex budgets, especially under difficult circumstances makes her the right person for this job," said Mayor Lightfoot. "One of our biggest priorities is balancing the City's budget to include the delivery of city services our taxpayers expect, while also meeting our pension obligations to our retirees. I am glad to have Susie on board to help lead the efforts of restoring Chicago's fiscal health with integrity, transparency, determination and in the best interests of our residents."

Chicago faces urgent financial challenges in the coming years including addressing the pension shortfall, closing the structural budget deficit and making significant debt service payments. Mayor Lightfoot has been deliberate in selecting the right financial team that can craft funding ideas to balance the budget and restore Chicago's fiscal health without overburdening low-income residents.

"I am honored to join the financial team to help find solutions that will stabilize our fiscal condition in a responsible way and create a path forward to address the needs of our residents," said Park. "This is an opportunity to make a lasting impact in creating a sustainable future for our City."

Park's previous experience handling fiscal matters will allow her to hit the ground running. Prior to rejoining the Budget Office, she served as Deputy Chief of the Bureau of Organizational Development for the Chicago Police Department, responsible for managing the finance, procurement, and grants division. From 2015 to 2018, Park served as the Deputy Budget Director for the Office of Budget and Management where she oversaw the



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City's \$2 billion public safety departments. Prior to her work with the City of Chicago, Park served as the Director of Financial Control for Cook County.

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