

CITY OF CHICAGO
OFFICE OF THE
CITY CLERK
MIGUEL DEL VALLE

For Immediate Release

Daveda Peeler/City Clerk's Office
(312) 744-2507

Donal Quinlan/Committee on Finance
(312) 744-6237

Melissa Stratton/MOPD
(312) 744-4496

**CITY DEBUTS CAPTIONING SERVICE
FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS SEPT. 10**

In an effort to make Chicago City Council meetings more accessible to all residents, the City will debut captioning services for its live streaming webcasts of meetings beginning Wednesday, September 10th.

Captioning displays the audio portion of a telecast as printed words on the TV screen or computer monitor. The new service will enable residents who are Deaf or hard of hearing to follow the City Council meetings as they stream live on the web.

"The captioning services will increase the ability of residents to access and actively participate in the proceedings of local government," said Alderman Edward M. Burke, Chairman of the Committee on Finance.

"The addition of captioning services to the webcasts further demonstrates the City's commitment to making Chicago government open and accessible to all of our residents," added City Clerk Miguel del Valle.

Made possible through the support of the Committee on Finance, residents can access the captioned meetings at www.chicityclerk.com and www.committeeonfinance.org.

"This is another example of how we continue to work to improve physical, communication and programmatic access for residents with disabilities in our efforts to make Chicago the most accessible city in the nation," said Commissioner Karen Tamley of the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities.

According to the National Center for Health Statistics, approximately 22 million Americans are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, with an estimated 12 out of every 1,000 persons who are Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing being under 18 years of age.

###

