

# Chicago Tribune



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BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

## A bumpy start for ‘co-governance’

Johnson’s call for more collaboration not always realized at City Hall

By Alice Yin  
Chicago Tribune

Ald. Chris Taliaferro believes his ward largely supports the use of ShotSpotter gunfire detection devices, but the dissent of one particular constituent stands out: the mayor of Chicago.

Although Taliaferro, 29th, is a solid ally of fellow West Sider Brandon Johnson, the alderman criticized the mayor’s administration in the media this month after the company behind the technology tipped him off about the city canceling the contract, effective in September.

“There was no surprise with regard to ShotSpotter because the mayor campaigned on it,” Taliaferro told the Tribune. “Where my hopes were diminished is

that we should just talk about this before it happened, and that didn’t happen.”

Johnson’s decision on ShotSpotter and its haphazard rollout point to broader issues for the fledgling administration, however. He set a high bar for himself to create a new era of open collaboration with aldermen that he hasn’t always lived up to.

Johnson has downplayed any friction with other leaders.

“I talk to so many people, all

day, every day,” the mayor told reporters last week in response to Chicago police Superintendent Larry Snelling also breaking with him on ShotSpotter. “Nothing is surreptitious about my administration. ... I don’t make decisions based upon one person’s opinion. I don’t. This was a collective response.”

When Johnson entered office last May, he and his leftist grassroots coalition made much hay over the concept of “co-gover-

nance.” Indeed, his inauguration address featured a round of applause for the aldermen onstage, an olive branch to his legislative counterparts after a rancorous four years.

The former Chicago Teachers Union lobbyist and Cook County commissioner did not have direct City Hall experience, but Johnson presented his fresh face as an advantage after voters narrowly

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## Delays of arms cost lives in Ukraine

‘We lose people, we lose territories’ when supplies arrive late

By Samya Kullab  
Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine — Half of all Western military support promised to Ukraine fails to arrive on time, complicating the task of military planners and ultimately costing the lives of soldiers in Russia’s war, Ukraine’s defense minister said Sunday.

Rustan Umerov, speaking at the “Ukraine. Year 2024” forum in Kyiv, said each delayed aid shipment means Ukrainian troop losses and underscored Russia’s superior military might.

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy later told attendees at the event that 31,000 Ukrainian soldiers have been killed in action since Russia launched its full-scale invasion two years ago, on Feb. 24, 2022.

It was the first time that Kyiv has confirmed the number of its losses.

On Sunday, a White House official said President Joe Biden will convene the top four congressional leaders at the White House on Tuesday to press lawmakers on passing an emergency aid package for Ukraine and Israel, as well as averting a looming government shutdown next month.

Commemorations to mark the second anniversary of the war on Saturday brought expressions of continued support, new bilateral security agreements and new aid commitments from Ukraine’s Western allies.

But Umerov said that they still needed to deliver on their commitments if Ukraine is to have any

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People enjoy the mild weather along the lakefront in Chicago on Sunday. **BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

## A mid-70s day on the way, an ice-free lake, little snow

Climate change blunts winter as February is on track to be among city’s warmest

By Samantha Moilanen  
and Adriana Pérez  
Chicago Tribune

Sean McGuire says climate played a significant role in where he chose to live after college.

After living in California, where wildfires and landslides have increased, and then attending college in New Orleans only a few years after Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast in 2005, he was looking for an area better insulated from natural disasters.

“I really wanted to live in a region which I felt like, long term, had a lot of climate resilience,” he said. “And so I was always kind of interested in the Midwest.”

More than a decade later the Humboldt Park resident said he has noticed significant changes in winter weather patterns, which he says has been an unexpected adjustment.

“Being here for 12 years you can definitely see that winters have changed. They’ve become shorter, but sometimes more severe at times,” McGuire said.

“I guess it makes me question my thesis of climate resilience, There’s really no region that’s completely immune.”

As meteorological winter comes to a close Thursday, temperatures are forecast to reach the mid-70s on Tuesday, snowfall is more than 50% below average in Chicago, and ice coverage for the Great Lakes is in single digits.

While some may welcome these changing weather patterns, they also bring ecological concerns like the expansion of

non-native species.

On Sunday sunny weather drew crowds hauling blankets, books and picnics to the concrete steps along Lake Michigan near Belmont Harbor. As temperatures crept into the high 50s, it looked like a weekend in June, with scores of people walking dogs and roller-skating along the bike path. Several men jogged by shirtless.

“This is crazy,” a woman said as her group tried to cut through

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ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/TRIBUNE

### Chelios’ No. 7 banner raised to the rafters

South Side native and Hall of Fame defenseman for the Blackhawks has his number retired in ceremony at United Center. **Chicago Sports**

### Cubs bring Bellinger back on 3-year deal

Outfielder agrees to \$80 million pact, with opt-outs after each of the first two years, to return to the North Side, where he had a bounce-back 2023 season. **Chicago Sports**

## New FAFSA: Here’s what you need to know

Federal student aid applications changed for next school year

By Zareen Syed  
Chicago Tribune

After a delayed launch that set the timeline back by months, the overhauled Free Application for Federal Student Aid is off to a complicated start.

The FAFSA, which typically opens in October, didn’t become available until Dec. 31, after the government revised the form and changed the formula for student aid in an attempt to make it easier to file. And the new form was hard to access for several weeks.

The changes created a tighter timeline for students, especially those filing for financial aid for the first time, and a time crunch for colleges, which won’t get student information until mid-March at the earliest.

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Krina Patel, a freshman at the University of Illinois at Chicago, works on paperwork during a FAFSA workshop on Friday at the student financial aid office at UIC. **VINCENT ALBAN/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

