

# Chicago Tribune



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BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

## House advances Ukraine, Israel aid

Rare bipartisan deal helps push package over crucial hurdle

By Stephen Groves, Lisa Mascaro and Kevin Freking  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — With rare bipartisan momentum, the House pushed ahead Friday on a foreign aid package of \$95 billion for Ukraine, Israel, Taiwan and humanitarian support as a robust coalition of lawmakers helped it clear a procedural hurdle to reach final votes this weekend.

Friday's vote produced a seldom-seen outcome in the typically hyper-partisan House, with Democrats helping Republican Speaker Mike Johnson's plan advance 316-94. Final House approval could come this weekend, when the package would be sent to the Senate.

It was a victory for the strategy Johnson set in motion this week after he agonized for two months over the legislation.

Still, Johnson has had to spend the past 24 hours making the rounds on conservative media working to salvage support for the wartime funding, particularly for Ukraine as it faces a critical moment battling Russia, but also for his own job as the effort to remove him as speaker grew.

"Ukrainians desperately need lethal aid right now. ... We cannot allow Vladimir Putin to roll through another country and take it," Johnson told the conservative host of "The Mark Levin Show" about the Russian president's invasion of Ukraine. "These are very serious matters with global implications."

Johnson said after the vote that while it wasn't "perfect legislation," it was the "best possible product" Republicans can get given their thin majority in one chamber of Congress.

After months of delay, the House worked slowly but deliberately once Johnson made up his mind this week to plow ahead with a package that matches, with a few alterations, what the Senate passed in February. President Joe Biden sent a swift endorsement of the speaker's plan and, in a rare moment, Donald Trump, the Republican presumed presidential nominee who opposes most overseas aid for Ukraine, has not derailed the speaker's work.

"The world is watching what the Congress does," the White House said in a statement. "Passing this

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RICH STORRY/GETTY

### Bulls knocked out in play-in game

The Heat took the last spot in the Eastern Conference playoffs as they rolled past the Bulls 112-91 in a play-in tournament elimination game. **Chicago Sports**

### Full jury seated in hush-money trial

A full jury of 12 people and six alternates was seated in Donald Trump's hush-money case, setting the stage for opening statements next week. **Nation & World**



Fraternal Order of Police President John Catanzara, center, is heckled by fellow attendees after speaking about Andrea Kersten, chief administrator of the Civilian Office of Police Accountability, during the public comments section of the Chicago Police Board meeting Thursday. **JOHN J. KIM/TRIBUNE**

## Protesters appear at testy meeting of Police Board

Activists call for firing of 5 officers involved in shooting death of Dexter Reed

By Sam Charles  
Chicago Tribune

At the Chicago Police Board's monthly meeting Thursday night, anger was palpable.

One month after Dexter Reed was killed in a shootout with CPD officers in Humboldt Park, dozens of activists and protesters flocked to Chicago police headquarters, calling for the firing of the five officers involved in the shooting and for the department to end its use of plainclothes tactical units.

The meeting also offered a

chance for members of the public to hear another, at times rancorous, back-and-forth between leaders of CPD and the Civilian Office of Police Accountability. Generational fault lines among attendees were made clear, too.

"Dexter Reed should be here today," Grace Patino, treasurer of the Chicago Alliance Against Racist and Political Oppression, told the board during the meeting's lengthy public comment period.

"The officers involved in the execution of Dexter Reed must be

immediately fired and prosecuted to the fullest extent possible of the law," Patino added. "These death squads in Chicago, also known as 'tact teams,' need to be disbanded. We need an immediate end to pretextual traffic stops and Larry Snelling should be fired."

COPA last week released several videos showing the March 21 shooting of Reed. The tense footage appears to show Reed — purportedly pulled over for not wearing a seatbelt — shooting an officer in the wrist before four other tactical officers opened fire,

shooting nearly 100 rounds, killing the 26-year-old in the 3800 block of West Ferdinand Street.

Publicly, Superintendent Larry Snelling has been careful to not make any statements about the shooting other than to say that the Police Department is cooperating in COPA's investigation. However, Snelling this week repeatedly criticized COPA's chief administrator, Andrea Kersten, for her own statements to reporters about the status of COPA's investigation and

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Mayor Brandon Johnson stands before the Chicago City Council on Friday as it considers his \$1.25 billion bond proposal. **TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

## Johnson's ambitious bond plan, migrant proposal pass council

Pair of big outlays overcome series of delays, pushback

By Jake Sheridan  
Chicago Tribune

Mayor Brandon Johnson scored two major victories Friday as the Chicago City Council passed his \$1.25 billion bond plan and a \$70 million migrant package.

The two big outlays faced tough pushback and an array of holdups as they worked through City Hall. But their ultimate passage gives Johnson much-needed money to continue the daily churn of migrant caretaking while adding a sprawling pool of cash to spend on housing, job growth and cultural projects.

After the votes, Johnson linked the two policies together, pushing back against opponents' claim his administration

is investing money on migrants but not long-term residents.

"What people are saying is, 'It's our turn. When is it our turn?' And our turn is now," he said. "I just happen to believe that we can do both/and."

The migrant spending plan required a full-court press from Johnson's team. Staffers methodically briefed aldermen on the plan, and Cook

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## Pritzker: CTA needs 'evolution' at the top

Leadership in question as agency struggles to provide reliable service

By Jeremy Gerner, Sarah Freishtat and Jake Sheridan  
Chicago Tribune

SPRINGFIELD — Gov. J.B. Pritzker called for an "evolution of the leadership" at the CTA, as embattled agency President Dorval Carter has looked to Springfield for solutions to a looming budget crisis.

Pritzker is the latest to weigh in on Carter's leadership, as the CTA president has found himself in the hot seat while the agency struggled in recent years to provide frequent, reliable and safe service. At the same time, the Illinois General Assembly is weighing a sweeping set of recommendations about what Chicago-area transit could look like in the future, including whether the CTA should be consolidated with Metra and Pace into one agency and how to address a transit fiscal cliff expected when federal pandemic aid runs out.

Thursday night, from his ceremonial office in the Illinois State

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