

Chicago Tribune



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BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

Judge: DNC protest route is 'adequate'

Challenges to city's plan 'boil down to a complaint,' she wrote

By Jason Meisner and Megan Crepeau
Chicago Tribune

A federal judge has ruled she will not force City Hall to widen and lengthen the route for Democratic National Convention protesters near the United Center, writing the city has a "significant government interest" in controlling the expected crowds for safety and security.

In her 24-page decision, U.S. District Judge Andrea Wood wrote the latest challenges to the alternate parade route proposed

by the city "boil down to a complaint" that City Hall hasn't offered "the exact route plaintiffs desire," even though that route "allows them to speak near their intended audience."

"This falls well short of a First Amendment violation," Wood wrote. "As such, the alternative parade route represents an adequate alternative channel of communication."

The ruling, which comes just days before the convention begins, is part of an ongoing lawsuit contending the city of Chicago was violating protesters' First Amendment rights by proposing an initial route in Grant Park that was far from "within sight and sound" of

Turn to Protest, Page 2



Barricade fencing begins to rise on Washington Boulevard near the United Center on Monday ahead of the Democratic National Convention. E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

"This falls well short of a First Amendment violation. As such, the alternative parade route represents an adequate alternative channel of communication."

— U.S. District Judge Andrea Wood, in a 24-page decision

Harris rolling out policy cautiously

Quick ascendancy leaves little time to construct platform

By Zeke Miller
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Vice President Kamala Harris is trying to outmaneuver former President Donald Trump and address old vulnerabilities on her policy positions as she starts to fill in how she would govern if elected in November.

Vice presidents rarely have policy portfolios of their own — and almost always set aside any views that differ from those of the Oval Office occupant. Now, after four years of following President Joe Biden's lead, Harris is taking a cautious approach to unveiling a policy vision in her own right.

But her surprise ascendancy to the top of the ticket after Biden dropped his reelection bid also means her policy platform is being pulled together just as quickly.

When Harris inherited Biden's political operation in late July, the campaign's website was quietly scrubbed of the six-point "issues" page that framed the race against Trump, including expanding voting protections and restoring nationwide access to abortion. Instead, Harris has peppered her speeches — so far heavy on biography for herself and her running mate — with broad goals like "building up the middle class." She has called for federal laws to provide abortion access and ban assault-style weapons, but has been thin on the

Turn to Harris, Page 5

After almost 30 years of redevelopment, some Henry Horner Homes residents say they still face inadequate housing



Charnae Harmon, president of Local Advisory Council for Henry Horner/Westhaven, stands Aug. 9 outside of the town home where she has lived for nearly six years in the East Garfield Park neighborhood in Chicago. STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

'The same battle from the very beginning'

By Sylvan Lebrun | Chicago Tribune

Charnae Harmon was just 11 years old when her family moved into the Henry Horner Homes in 1985.

Harmon recalls the "horrible conditions" that characterized her childhood inside the Horner high-rises: infestations, violence and perpetually unresolved maintenance issues.

Ten years after Harmon moved in, the first wrecking ball struck the walls of the infamous public housing complex on the Near West Side. The demolition of the Horner towers was praised as major progress at the Chicago 1996 Democratic National Convention as former Horner residents anticipated the rebuilding of new and well-maintained town houses on the site.

Now almost 30 years later, the last step of the Horner redevelopment is about to be completed as the DNC returns next week to the United Center, which sits beside the former public housing high-rises. The Chicago Housing Authority has moved to end a legal agreement that has bound them to the former Horner residents since 1995, arguing that their part of the job is done.

Yet many in the Horner community say that CHA is still failing to hold up its end of the bargain, claiming that their homes have again fallen victim to neglect and disrepair.

Turn to Housing, Page 4



Michael Jones, 10, watches as a crane begins demolishing a high-rise building at Henry Horner Homes at 2111 W Lake St. on Aug. 11, 1995, in Chicago. PHIL GREER/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

DNC may impact trek to offices downtown

Influx of visitors to city could lead to some employees staying home

By Sarah Freishtat
Chicago Tribune

Chicago is poised for a rush of visitors from the Democratic National Convention, but many typical downtown office workers will likely be staying home.

Concerned about the ease of travel to and from downtown or the potential for protests or security to impede transportation routes, some businesses are planning to close their offices or make mandatory in-office days optional during the four-day convention.

"It's kind of unfortunate because we're all trying to get people back into the office," said Michael Thanasouras, managing director of real estate firm SVN Chicago Commercial.

The DNC is a chance for Chicago officials to show off the city to the tens of thousands of politicians, delegates, protesters and media who are expected at the event. But for some employers, the national spotlight also brings the threat of disruptions and has them deeming it easier for employees to stay home, even as companies look to continue

Turn to Visitors, Page 2

DNC transit security takes shape

The arrival of the presidential race to Chicago promises to bring protests and safety concerns. **Chicagoland, Page 3**

On stage at Steppenwolf

Rachel Bloom's new comedy piece, "Death, Let Me Do My Show," has what one might call a resonant title. **Arts & Living**

Kamala cake — Obama cake too

Where to go and what to eat for a taste of democracy during the DNC in Chicago. **Food & Health**

TODAY'S WEATHER



High 86 Low 68

Complete Chicagoland forecast on Page 18

\$4.00 city and suburbs and elsewhere
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