



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Today, the Chicago Music Commission posted on its website, www.chicago-music.org, what it believes to be the current version of the City of Chicago's proposed event promoter ordinance now before the City Council's License and Consumer Protection Committee. CMC also posted a summary of its concerns with that ordinance, a "frequently asked questions" document about the ordinance prepared by the City in September (to the best of CMC's knowledge the most current such document from the City), and the Chicago Independent Review Panel of Building Safety Enforcement Powers' 2003 report.

Many members of the music community are very concerned about the potential consequences of this ordinance should it become law, and have not seen a copy of it since it an earlier version of it was rescheduled for a vote in 2007. CMC believes the ordinance as drafted is not necessary to achieve the City's stated goals of seeing a more transparent and accountable promoter industry in Chicago. And further believes that if the ordinance becomes law, it will create unworkable burdens for many small and young music promoters in Chicago, pressuring a key component of the vibrant Chicago music community instead of supporting and fostering its growth. Andres Meneses, CMC Board Member and music promoter, said "With Chicago music as one of Chicago's most visible and largest exports and revenue generators, now, more than ever, we need City government to be supporting the music community rather than viewing it as a safety risk."

CMC posted this in the interest of providing the music community and the general public with as much information as possible prior to the Chicago City Council taking the ordinance up for a vote. From media sources, CMC understands that the ordinance is not yet scheduled for a vote by the City Council's License and Consumer Protection Committee, and that this ordinance may be redrafted again prior to any vote.

CMC welcomes both public input as well as a restarting of our discussion with City officials. Indeed, CMC looks forward to posting more current versions of the ordinance—and other relevant City documents—as they become available.

CMC is a nonprofit independent organization working to transform Chicago's relationship with its world-class music community. For decades, Chicago has had one of the world's most significant music cultures, creating groundbreaking sounds that have transformed music the world over. CMC is working on behalf of the music community to ensure that its many diverse voices are fully heard by government and business leaders and that the community's needs are being fully addressed. In serving as its independent voice and building ties among government, business, and the music community, CMC will allow the music community to thrive on its own terms. By bringing together traditionally separate constituencies, CMC will take Chicago music--and Chicago--forward.

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