









Scanmap Chicago: How to Help

Scanmap Chicago is a people's live map of Chicago Police Department communication. It's intended to aid protesters on the ground in anticipating and responding to the actions of police. Generally, the types of things we report are:

-  police presence
-  units requested
-  fire
-  prisoner van
-  group
-  injury
-  barricade
-  aviation

Important Links

- [Scanmap Chicago](#)
- [Shift planning doc](#) (you'll need to request access to this)
- CPD scanners: <https://https://bit.ly/scanmapshiftsbit.ly/scanmapshifts>
 - <https://crimeisdown.com/audio> (you can listen to multiple feeds at once on this one and it's easiest to jump between them)
 - https://bit.ly/scanmapshiftshttps://openmhz.com/system/chi_cpd (the autoplay for this is wonky but it lets you go back and replay a snippet if you miss it, and star/download it if it's notable)
 - <https://www.broadcastify.com/listen/feed/31652>
- Look up district locations [here](#). Protests will either be covered according to the police district or on citywide 6

Guiding Principles

- **Please limit to information that is useful for people on the ground.** This includes where police are headed and where arrests are being made.
- **Please keep the information related to the protests.** You may hear 911 chatter, which is not necessarily useful for people on the ground.
- **Try to confirm information before reporting, if possible.** Reports of "shots fired" for instance can cause panic and need additional verification. Consider keeping in touch with or following reports from people on the ground.
- **Avoid mentioning identifying information about protesters.**
- Avoid using police jargon/language and framing.

Lingo & Jargon

- [CrimelsDown's Unit and UCR \(offense\) code lookup](#)
- [Various cop terminology explained here](#)
- **10-4**: ok/acknowledged by cop with partner
- **10-99**: ok/acknowledged by cop without partner (riding solo)
- **10-1**: police, firefighter, or paramedic in distress, nearby cops drop everything and rush over
- Every cop on duty has a unit number, e.g. 234, that describes their role and equipment for their shift. They use this to communicate with dispatch and vice versa. Try to start hearing numbers as names.
- Quick guide to codes most relevant to protests:
 - Unit ends in 0: Sergeant (supervisor, white shirt, gold battenberg), at very large events its the usually sergeant communicating on the radio and relaying info to non-supervisors in person
 - Unit ends in 90, 99: Lieutenant
 - Unit ends in 00: District commander aka the boss of the district. If this guy gives an order it is going to happen.
 - Car 41, 42, 43 etc: Head of patrol for various areas, often orchestrating the response to large protests.
 - Car 5: Head of patrol, directly under the superintendent. Again, often orchestrating the higher-level strategy and deciding which police resources will go where.
 - Ends in 7x, eg. 271, 272: Wagon they use to transport arrestees, often called in when they are about to arrest people or are arresting people.
 - If it's just one or two arrestees they will call for a "cage car" or a "car for transport" or say they are "transporting to 2" (i.e. taking arrestee to the 2nd District lockup, 51st + Wentworth)

How to Contribute

1. If you don't already have one, get a contributor key from Bea
2. Get yourself set up at a computer. Tune in to the CPD scanner and have the CPD codes and [our map](#) open in other tabs.
3. Listen for police talking about details relevant to protests. When you hear one, add a note with relevant details. For example, if people are arrested ("under"), note how many. **Verify as much as you can, especially if it involves shooting.** We don't want to spread misinformation or incite panic.
4. Add a location. Add cross streets if possible.
 - a. Click the search icon to find possible coordinates for the location. Click on one of the results to set it. **The location result should be highlighted in blue.**
 - b. Alternatively, click on the map to set the location. This will drop a pin wherever you click, but will just attach the latitude and longitude to the text you submit. If you'd like to also include a helpful cross street or location (ie, "Walgreens"), you can go back into your entry and edit it once it shows up on the site.
5. Add a label/icon so we can easily identify the activity.

6. Submit. There may be a short delay before your submission appears on the map.

Roles

1. Action Lead

- a. Make sure all shifts are covered and fill in when needed
- b. At the beginning of the night, start a Signal thread with everyone who will be listening throughout the action
- c. Be on hand throughout for coordination and questions

2. Shift Listener

- a. Sign up & tune in & stay responsive in the Signal thread
- b. Follow the steps in “How to Contribute” above
- c. If you can help orient others, that’s great!

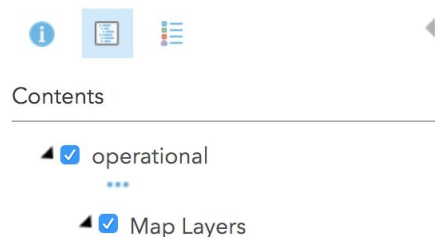
Snow Plow Tracker

CPD is using snow plows to barricade streets. Because of the City’s [Plow Tracker App](#), the City has a public, real-time feed of the locations of the plows. The City has not turned this feed off.


Because we do not want the City to realize that they are publishing this data, please only put snow plow locations on the map that are near an active protest.

The locations of plows are viewable by following these steps.

1. Go to this [ArcGIS Map](#)
2. Expand the “operational” layer



3. Scroll down and check the “DATA ADMIN.CMAT SNOWPLOWS” layer. After checking the option, a snowflake should appear over Chicago

- DATA
ADMIN.StreetClosure
Partial P7
- Partial Closures
Today

- DATA ADMIN.CMAT
SNOWPLOWS
- DATA
ADMIN.STREETCLOSURE
PTODAY
- DATA ADMIN.REV
PARKING PAYBOXES
- DATA ADMIN.CDOT

4. Zoom into Chicago, and snowflakes will appear at the locations of the snow plows. For example, you should see something like this:

