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Published on July 27 2023

Mayor Johnson Press Briefing

Mayor Johnson addresses the state of Chicago

One of the topics addressed was the state of the CTA.

CHICAGO— After last week's City Council Meeting on Wednesday, July 19, Mayor Brandon Johnson addressed the press with updates. During the update, he acknowledged a reporter's question about the state of the CTA.

The reporter raised concerns about cleanliness, crime, ghost buses and trains, and on-time arrivals and departures. This, in turn, led to questions about replacing Dorval R. Carter, Jr., the current head of the CTA and starting a

"shake-up" in that agency's board.

When discussing that question, he brought up the topic of equity and its connection to the Chicago transit system. Certain transit lines have been facing more issues than others, leading to increased criticism of public transportation in recent months. Mayor Johnson emphasized the importance of having an equitable system, stating that "public transportation is one of those other public accommodations that's important that it runs not just well, but that it has to be an equitable system as well." He compared the transit system to good healthcare, education, housing, and other methods of establishing equity in Chicago.

He talks about how his ancestors and other descendants of slaves fought for fair transit access and accommodation from the time the Emancipation Proclamation went into effect up until now, towards the end of his answer. He plans to give the CTA agency and other agencies 3 months to showcase how their vision aligns with his administration's vision.

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