

Welcome to Minneapolis City Council

A guide to covering the legislative body of Minneapolis



2026 – 2029 Council Term

minneapolismn.gov/government/city-council



For reasonable accommodations or alternative formats please contact the Office of City Clerk, 612-673-2216, cityclerk@minneapolismn.gov. People who are deaf or hard of hearing can use a relay service to call 311 at 612-673-3000. Para ayuda, llame al 311. Rau kev pab, hu 311. Hadii aad caawimaad u baahantahay, wac 311.

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Quick guide to covering the City Council

City Council meetings are open to the public. You can join in-person or watch live on the City's YouTube channel. All calendars, agendas, archives, and related files are located in the Legislative Information Management System (LIMS) at lims.minneapolismn.gov.

Meeting locations

All regularly scheduled Minneapolis City Council meetings occur in the City Council Chambers, located at City Hall, 350 S. Fifth St., Room 380. The overflow room is City Hall 392. The doors open 30 minutes prior to the posted start time. Boards and Commissions meetings vary by location. Visit lims.minneapolis.gov/boards for meeting details and locations.

Seating & setup in chambers

Members of the media are welcome to set up cameras and plug-in for audio in Chambers at the far end of Chambers next to where the Clerk sits. We do not provide any equipment so bring other devices as needed.

Quiet please

Silence all devices while you are in Chambers. If you arrive late and need to set up equipment, please wait to do so until the Council Member or presenter is done speaking. Do not talk in Chambers during meetings. Move to the hall outside of Chambers if you need to have a conversation but be mindful of the volume of your conversation.

Media interviews

- The City Council news team represents the City Council as a body, not any single Council Member. Interview requests should be made directly to the members' offices.
- If you have procedural or legislative questions email councilnews@minneapolismn.gov.

[View the City Council Media website](#)



Council Rules

Council Rules determine how the Council and its committees operate and make decisions. The City Council has adopted Robert's Rules of Order as its parliamentary authority. The Council Rules are published as an appendix to the Code of Ordinances.

[View the City Council rules](#)



City Council news

Stay connected with the Minneapolis City Council by signing for our news bulletin. Council Wrapped is a summary of key legislative actions from the Minneapolis City Council.

[Sign up for our news bulletin](#)



Meet the Minneapolis City Council



From left to right: Back row: Council Members Soren Stevenson, Elliott Payne, LaTrisha Vetaw, Michael Rainville, Jamison Whiting, Pearl Warren, Jamal Osman. Front row: Council Members Aisha Chughtai, Robin Wonsley, Linea Palmisano, Aurin Chowdhury, Elizabeth Shaffer, Jason Chavez.

City Council organizational structure

Council members serve four-year terms. The 2026-2029 term of the City Council commenced on Monday, January 5, 2026. At its organizational meeting, Council elected the following to leadership positions:

- **Council Member Elliott Payne** as President
- **Council Member Jamal Osman** as Vice-President
- **Council Member Aisha Chughtai** as Majority Leader
- **Council Member Robin Wonsley** as Minority Leader

Council also adopted a resolution formalizing their standing committees, including committee membership and leadership, quorums, and dates and times for regular meetings for the 2026-2029 term.

The following committees were created:

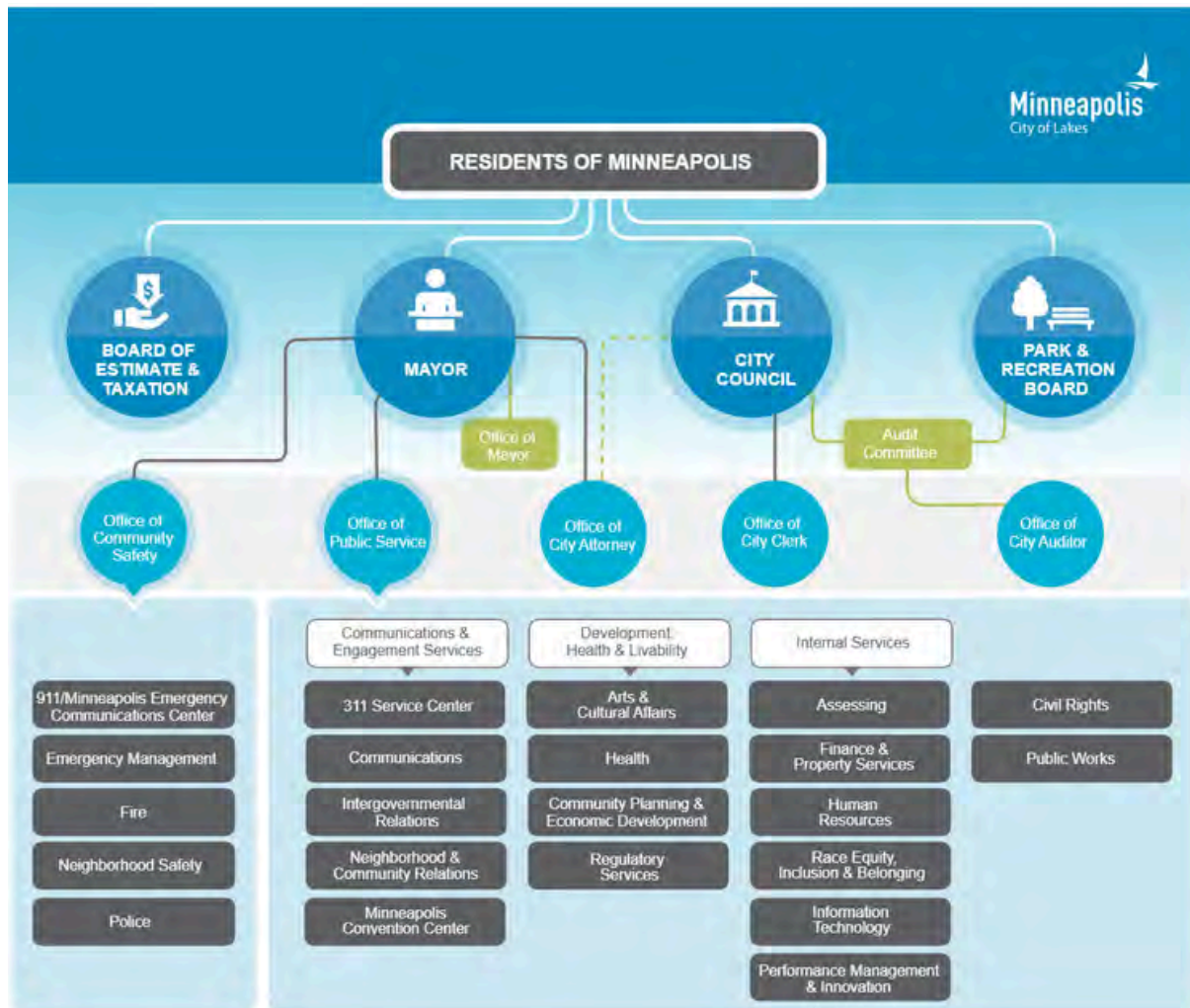
- Budget
- Business, Housing & Zoning
- Committee of the Whole
 - Settlement Agreement & Consent Decree Subcommittee
- Climate & Infrastructure
- Enterprise & Labor Relations
- Intergovernmental Relations
- Public Health, Safety & Equity

More information about the organizational structure and committee descriptions are available on the City's website.

[Learn more about City Council Committees](#)



City Structure - Roles of Mayor & City Council



City Charter

Minnesota was the fourth state in the U.S. to permit “home rule” through a constitutional amendment approved in 1896. That amendment allowed citizens to create City governments separate from the standard plans established under state law. Essentially, a home rule charter served as a constitution for a local government. It allows a community to establish and maintain a municipal corporation to provide for the common health, safety, and welfare of its people.

The City Charter primarily does the following:

- It defines the powers and authority of the City, granted by the people.
- It prescribes the City’s operating structure and its officers, including their number, qualifications, manner of election or appointment, and duties.
- It specifies the processes by which official acts and decisions are made, implemented, and enforced by the City.

[Learn more about the City Charter](#)



Charter amendment

In 2021, Minneapolis voters amended the Minneapolis City Charter to establish an Executive Mayor-Legislative Council form of government replacing the "weak mayor, strong council" system. Under this new form, municipal powers are primarily shared between the Mayor and City Council and power is separated into different branches – an executive and a legislative, similar to what exists in federal and state models.

Role of City Council

The Minneapolis City Council consists of thirteen members, each elected from separate wards of roughly equal population (about 34,000 residents). The Council is the legislative body of the City of Minneapolis. All legislative and policymaking powers are held by the Council as a body. Like other legislative bodies, the Council primarily serves three functions:

- **Policymaking:** Legitimizing government decisions.
- **Oversight:** Maintaining a system of checks and balances on the administration of government.
- **Representation:** Providing a visible link between the government and the community.

Role of Mayor

The Mayor is elected by the City's voters from a single district that encompasses the entire geographic territory and the entire population of the City of Minneapolis. Thus, being directly accountable to all voters in the city, the Mayor occupies the highest elective office in Minneapolis and serves as the City's Chief Elected Official. Like other elected chief executives, the Mayor's functions primarily fall into the following three capacities:

- **Political leader:** Providing leadership in the creation of a shared policy agenda that identifies and prioritizes the needs of the community.
- **Executive leader:** Responsible for implementing and enforcing all laws, ordinances, and policies and accountable for the City's performance in delivering municipal services and programs
- **Ceremonial leader:** Acting as the primary representative and the official spokesperson of the City.

[Learn more about the roles of Mayor and City Council](#)



Legislative Process - How the City enacts laws

All local laws, called ordinances, must go through a series of steps, referred to as the legislative process.

01

Request for Committee Action

All ideas begin the legislative process with a document called a Request for Committee Action (RCA), usually written by City department staff. All new ordinances must be sponsored by a Council Member.

02

Notice

The Council Member sponsoring the ordinance gives notice of intent—in writing—at a City Council meeting. The notice alerts Council Members, City departments, and the public of the proposed ordinance and its general subject matter.

03

Introduction

At the next Council meeting, the new ordinance is introduced, given its first reading, and is referred to a subject matter committee for review.

04

Committee Review

The subject matter committee considers each item, amends if necessary, and forwards its recommendation to the full City Council. Committees will hold public hearings on items and take comments from the public, if required.

05

Council Action

City Council acts on the item at the Council meeting. At this stage of the process, the item may be adopted, amended, sent back to the committee or to another committee for further consideration, or denied. Generally, votes require a simple majority, unless more votes are required by state law or the City Charter.

06

Mayoral Consideration

The Mayor must either approve or veto all official acts within five days (not including Sundays). Official acts that are not signed within the five-day period will become effective without the Mayor's signature.

07

Publication

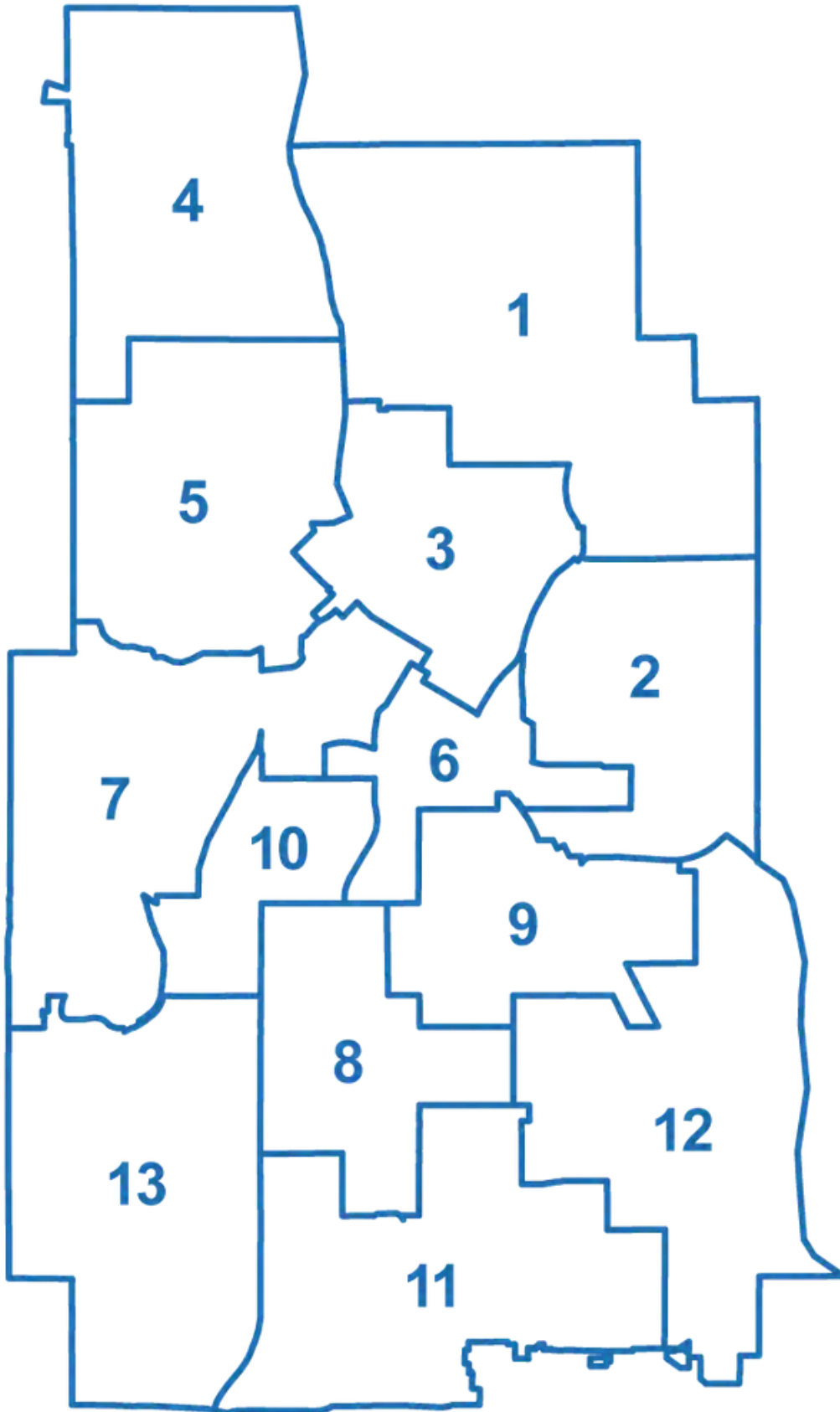
Under state law, all ordinances, resolutions, and other actions must be published in the City's official newspaper before becoming effective. Publication generally occurs 8 days after Council's final action, in the Saturday edition of the next week.

08

Codefication

After publication, the Clerk's Office indexes all official actions and prepares the original documents for permanent archival.

City Council Wards



Ward 1 - Elliott Payne



Ward 2 - Robin Wonsley



Ward 3 - Michael Rainville



Ward 4 - LaTrisha Vetaw



Ward 5 - Pearl Warren



Ward 6 - Jamal Osman



Ward 7 - Elizabeth Shaffer



Ward 8 - Soren Stevenson



Ward 9 - Jason Chavez



Ward 10 - Aisha Chughtai



Ward 11 - Jamison Whiting



Ward 12 - Aurin Chowdhury



Ward 13 - Linea Palmisano

Wards Adopted March 2, 2022

Minneapolis **Ward 1**



Council Member **Elliott Payne**

Leadership role: President

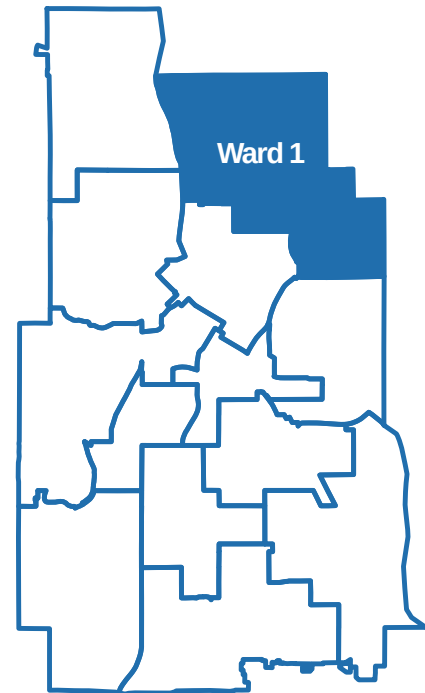
Assumed office: 2022

Assigned Committees:

- Budget Committee
- Committee of the Whole
- Intergovernmental Relations Committee
- Public Health, Safety & Equity Committee
- Settlement Agreement and Consent Decree Subcommittee (Vice-Chair)

Contact Ward 1

-  (612) 673-2201
-  ward1@minneapolismn.gov
-  www.minneapolismn.gov/ward1



About Ward 1

Ward 1 is in the Northeast corner of Minneapolis.

Neighborhoods in Ward 1:

- Audubon Park
- Bottineau
- Columbia Park
- Como
- Holland
- Logan Park
- Marshall Terrace
- Mid-City Industrial
- Northeast Park
- Waite Park
- Windom Park

Minneapolis **Ward 2**



Council Member **Robin Wonsley**

Leadership role: Minority Leader

Assumed office: 2022

Assigned Committees:

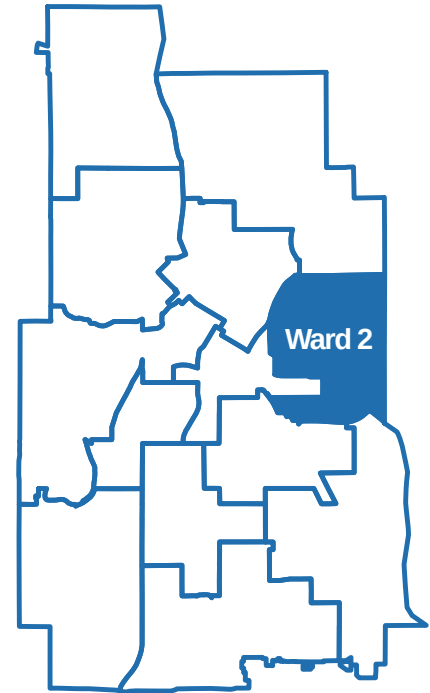
- Budget Committee
- Climate & Infrastructure Committee (Chair)
- Committee of the Whole
- Intergovernmental Relations Committee
- Public Health, Safety & Equity Committee

Contact Ward 2

 (612) 673-2202

 ward2@minneapolismn.gov

 www.minneapolismn.gov/ward2



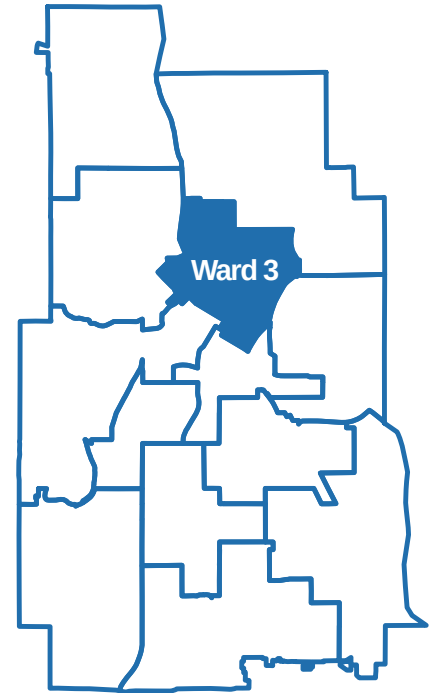
About Ward 2

Ward 2 is in Southeast Minneapolis.

Neighborhoods in Ward 2:

- Cedar Riverside
- Como
- Marcy Holmes
- Prospect Park - East River Road
- Seward
- University of Minnesota

Minneapolis **Ward 3**



Council Member **Michael Rainville**

Assumed office: 2022

Assigned Committees:

- Budget Committee
- Business, Housing & Zoning Committee
- Committee of the Whole
- Intergovernmental Relations Committee (Vice Chair)
- Public Health, Safety & Equity Committee

Contact Ward 3

- 📞 (612) 673-2203
- ✉️ ward3@minneapolismn.gov
- 🌐 www.minneapolismn.gov/ward3

About Ward 3

Ward 3 covers parts of Northeast and Downtown Minneapolis.

Neighborhoods in Ward 3:

- Beltrami
- Como
- Downtown East
- Downtown West
- Marcy Holmes
- Nicollet Island - East Bank
- North Loop
- Sheridan
- St. Anthony East
- St. Anthony West

Minneapolis **Ward 4**



Council Member **LaTrisha Vetaw**

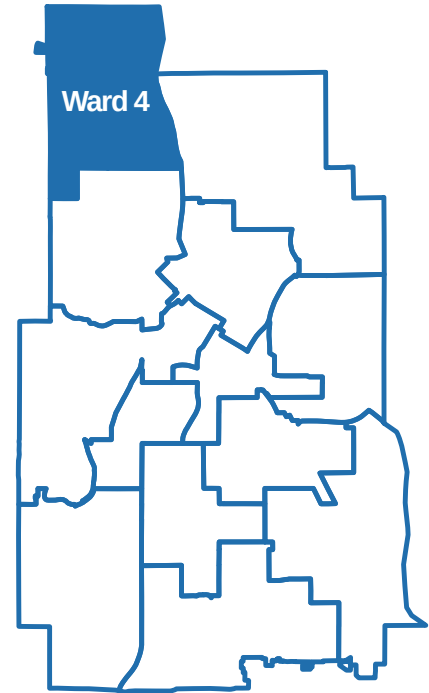
Assumed office: 2022

Assigned Committees:

- Budget Committee
- Climate & Infrastructure Committee
- Committee of the Whole
- Enterprise & Labor Relations Committee
- Intergovernmental Relations Committee
- Public Health, Safety & Equity Committee

Contact Ward 4

- 📞 (612) 673-2204
- ✉️ ward4@minneapolismn.gov
- 🌐 www.minneapolismn.gov/ward4



About Ward 4

Ward 4 covers the northern most part of Minneapolis.

Neighborhoods in Ward 4:

- Camden Industrial
- Cleveland
- Folwell
- Humboldt Industrial Area
- Jordan
- Lind - Bohanon
- McKinley
- Shingle Creek
- Victory
- Webber - Camden
- Willard - Hay

Minneapolis **Ward 5**



Council Member **Pearl Warren**

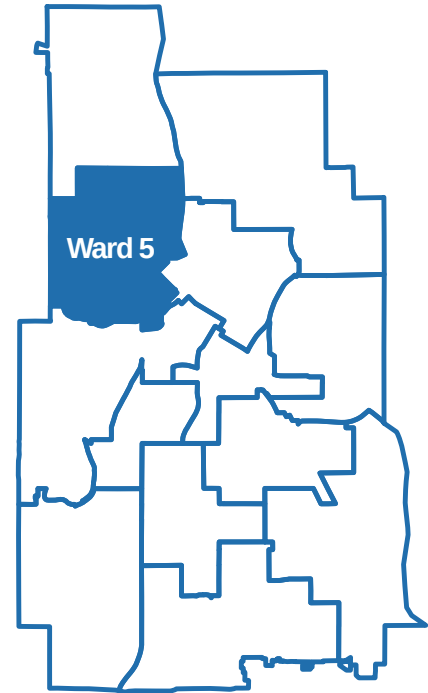
Assumed office: 2026

Assigned Committees:

- Budget Committee
- Business, Housing & Zoning Committee
- Climate & Infrastructure Committee
- Committee of the Whole
- Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Contact Ward 5

- 📞 (612) 673-2205
- ✉️ ward5@minneapolismn.gov
- 🌐 www.minneapolismn.gov/ward5



About Ward 5

Ward 5 is located in the north-central part of Minneapolis.

Neighborhoods in Ward 5:

- Harrison
- Hawthorne
- Jordan
- Near - North
- North Loop
- Sumner - Glenwood
- Willard - Hay

Minneapolis **Ward 6**



Council Member **Jamal Osman**

Leadership role: Vice President

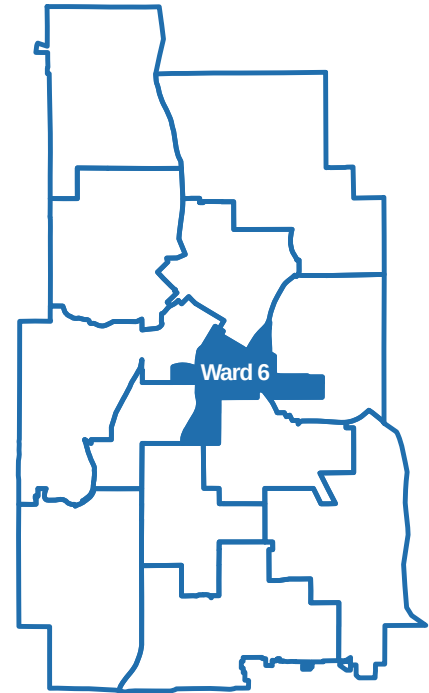
Assumed office: 2020

Assigned Committees:

- Budget Committee
- Business, Housing & Zoning Committee (Chair)
- Committee of the Whole
- Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Contact Ward 6

- 📞 (612) 673-2206
- ✉️ ward6@minneapolismn.gov
- 🌐 www.minneapolismn.gov/ward6



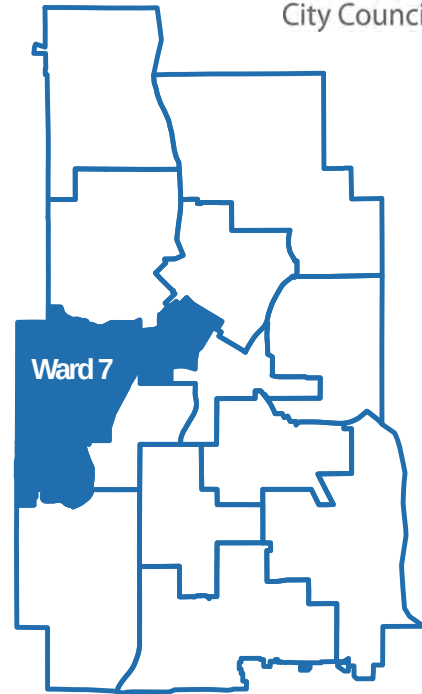
About Ward 6

Ward 6 is located in central Minneapolis.

Neighborhoods in Ward 6:

- Cedar Riverside
- Elliot Park
- Phillips West
- Seward
- Stevens Square - Loring Heights
- Ventura Village

Minneapolis **Ward 7**



Council Member **Elizabeth Shaffer**

Assumed office: 2026

Assigned Committees:

- Budget Committee (Vice-Chair)
- Business, Housing & Zoning Committee
- Committee of the Whole
- Enterprise & Labor Relations Committee
- Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Contact Ward 7

- 📞 (612) 673-2207
- ✉️ ward7@minneapolismn.gov
- 🌐 www.minneapolismn.gov/ward7

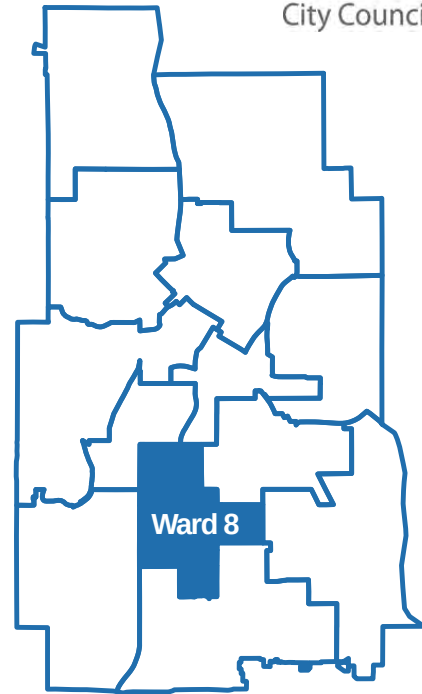
About Ward 7

Ward 7 is located on the western edge of Minneapolis and includes parts of downtown.

Neighborhoods in Ward 7:

- Bryn Mawr
- Cedar-Isles-Dean
- Downtown West
- East Isles
- Kenwood
- Linden Hills
- Loring Park
- Lowry Hill
- Stevens Square-Loring Heights
- West Maka Ska

Minneapolis **Ward 8**



Council Member **Soren Stevenson**

Assumed office: 2026

Assigned Committees:

- Budget Committee
- Climate & Infrastructure Committee (Vice-Chair)
- Committee of the Whole
- Enterprise & Labor Relations Committee
- Intergovernmental Relations Committee
- Public Health, Safety & Equity Committee (Vice-Chair)

Contact Ward 8

 (612) 673-2208

 ward8@minneapolismn.gov

 www.minneapolismn.gov/ward8

About Ward 8

Ward 8 is located in south central Minneapolis.

Neighborhoods in Ward 8:

- Bancroft
- Bryant
- Central
- Field
- King Field
- Lyndale
- Northrop
- Regina

Minneapolis **Ward 9**



Council Member **Jason Chavez**

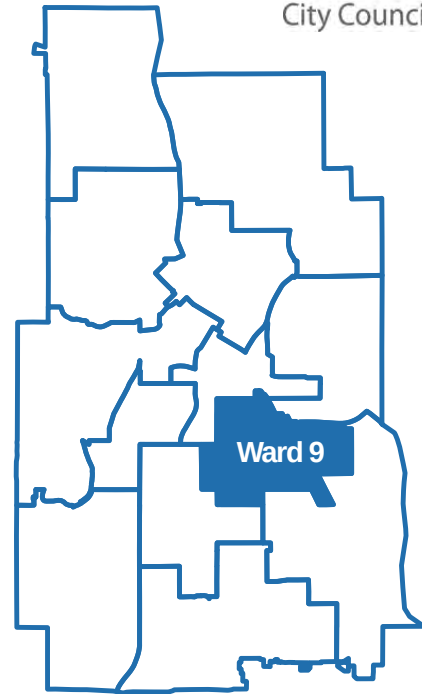
Assumed office: 2022

Assigned Committees:

- Budget Committee
- Business, Housing & Zoning Committee
- Committee of the Whole
- Enterprise & Labor Relations Committee
- Intergovernmental Relations Committee
- Public Health, Safety & Equity Committee (Chair)

Contact Ward 9

- 📞 (612) 673-2209
- ✉️ ward9@minneapolismn.gov
- 🌐 www.minneapolismn.gov/ward9



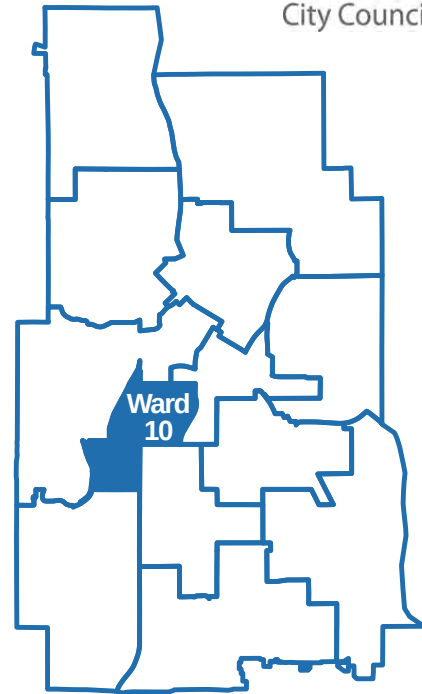
About Ward 9

Ward 9 is located in central Minneapolis.

Neighborhoods in Ward 9:

- Central
- Corcoran
- East Phillips
- Midtown Phillips
- Howe
- Longfellow
- Powderhorn Park

Minneapolis **Ward 10**



Council Member **Aisha Chughtai**

Leadership role: Majority Leader

Assumed office: 2022

Assigned Committees:

- Budget Committee (Chair)
- Business, Housing & Zoning Committee
- Climate & Infrastructure Committee
- Committee of the Whole (Vice-Chair)
- Enterprise & Labor Relations Committee
- Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Contact Ward 10

 (612) 673-2210

 ward10@minneapolismn.gov

 www.minneapolismn.gov/ward10

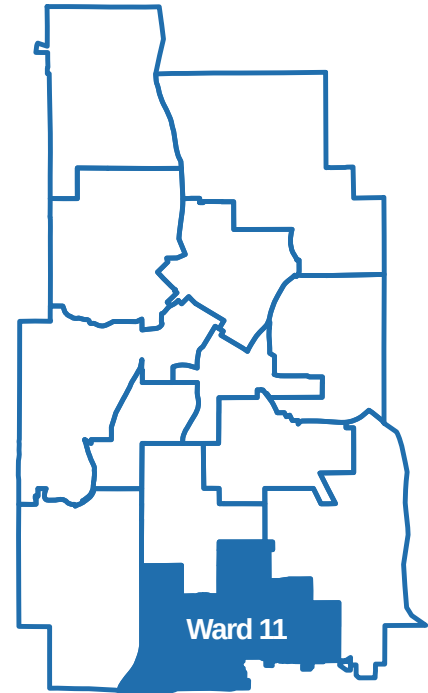
About Ward 10

Ward 10 is located in central Minneapolis.

Neighborhoods in Ward 10:

- East Bde Maka Ska
- East Isles
- Lowry Hill East
- South Uptown
- Whittier

Minneapolis **Ward 11**



Council Member **Jamison Whiting**

Assumed office: 2026

Assigned Committees:

- Budget Committee
- Committee of the Whole
- Enterprise & Labor Relations Committee (Vice-Chair)
- Intergovernmental Relations Committee
- Public Health, Safety & Equity Committee
- Settlement Agreement and Consent Decree Subcommittee (Chair)

Contact Ward 11

- ☎ (612) 673-2211
- ✉ ward11@minneapolismn.gov
- 🌐 www.minneapolismn.gov/ward11

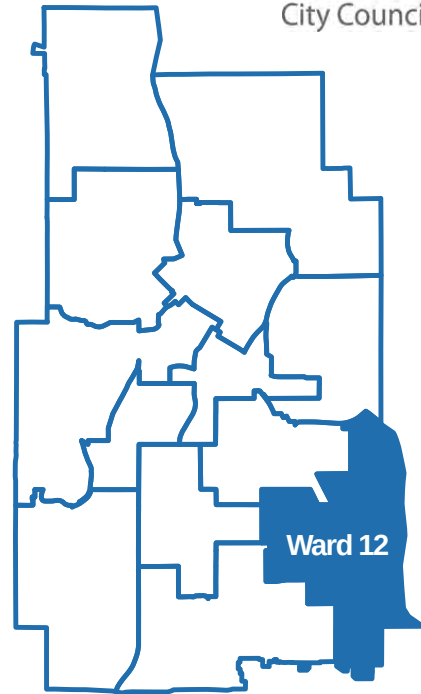
About Ward 11

Ward 11 is located in the southernmost part of Minneapolis.

Neighborhoods in Ward 11:

- Diamond Lake
- Field
- Hale
- Keewaydin
- Northrop
- Page
- Tangletown
- Wenonah
- Windom

Minneapolis **Ward 12**



Council Member **Aurin Chowdhury**

Assumed office: 2024

Assigned Committees:

- Budget Committee
- Business, Housing & Zoning Committee (Vice-Chair)
- Climate & Infrastructure Committee
- Committee of the Whole (Chair)
- Intergovernmental Relations Committee (Chair)

Contact Ward 12

 (612) 673-2212

 ward12@minneapolismn.gov

 www.minneapolismn.gov/ward12

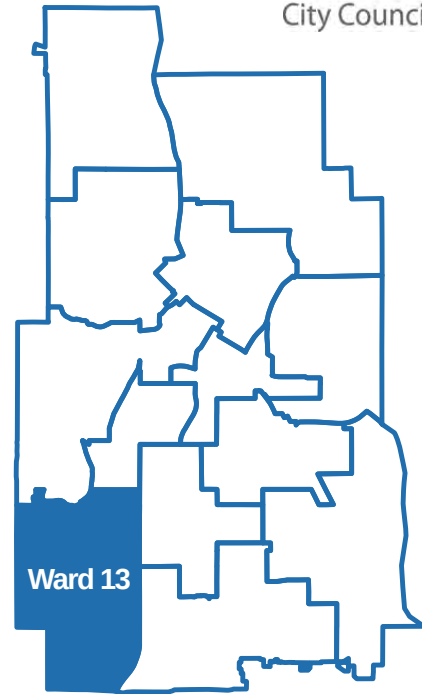
About Ward 12

Ward 12 is located in the southeastern corner of Minneapolis.

Neighborhoods in Ward 12:

- Cooper
- Ericsson
- Hiawatha
- Howe
- Keewaydin
- Minnehaha
- Morris Park
- Standish

Minneapolis **Ward 13**



Council Member **Linea Palmisano**

Assumed office: 2014

Assigned Committees:

- Budget Committee
- Climate & Infrastructure Committee
- Committee of the Whole
- Enterprise & Labor Relations Committee (Chair)
- Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Contact Ward 13

 (612) 673-2213

 ward13@minneapolismn.gov

 www.minneapolismn.gov/ward13

About Ward 13

Ward 13 is located in Southwest Minneapolis.

Neighborhoods in Ward 13:

- Armatage
- East Harriet
- Fulton
- Kenny
- Linden Hills
- Lynnhurst

Data requests

A large amount of City data is available to the public under Minnesota's public record laws, and it is your right to submit a data request under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. However, a data request is not always the right choice for the type of information you need.

When to submit a data request

- **Do submit data request**
 - Get public or redacted copies of existing documents and data. Most data are available unless specifically protected by a state or federal law.
 - Obtain source documents. If you need an official record (reports, memos, contracts, etc.) and the City hasn't published it in LIMS or on our website, a data request is the right path.
- **Do not submit a data request**
 - If you are asking questions, getting context beyond what's in the requested documents, or obtaining data that doesn't yet exist (but may be created in the future).

What to expect

- **How we respond:** Every data request involves multiple people and steps. The person who receives the initial request serves as the project coordinator. When a request is received, they rely on department staff to search for and gather relevant data. Another person will then review and redact protected data.
- **Timing:** The City's data request process isn't tailored to media deadlines; it is focused on ensuring all requestors receive the requested data. You are in line with hundreds of other requestors, and limited staff time is split across requests. Depending on the number and complexity of open requests, it may take a significant amount of time to receive data. We recommend requesting data well in advance of your intended use.
- **Availability and quality:** Data requests are answered with existing data and documents. Sometimes this includes documents that are incomplete or inaccurate. Sometimes it reveals that documents that are typically created weren't. The data request provides transparency by producing the data or documents that exist.
- **Fees may apply:** There may be costs for compiling, reviewing, redacting, and producing some data, especially for large or complex requests.

Once you receive data

- **Expect redactions and withheld data:** The City must withhold data protected by law (e.g., specific investigative, personnel, medical, or private data). When this happens, the response should explain why.

- **Exclusions:** Some types of data are not available. For example, only specific information about City personnel is available, and correspondence between an individual and an elected official is protected. These classifications limit what can be provided through a data request or by City spokespeople.

Best practices and tips

- **Make sure your request is clear.** When sending a request for data, if possible, include the following types of information:
 - **Date Range:** Include a date range to help us narrow the search.
 - **Owner:** If you know, include the name of the department, division or individuals who maintain the data.
 - **Keywords:** Suggesting keywords or search terms will help us find the most relevant data possible.
- **Use media relations or a subject-matter contact when you need explanation.** If you need background, clarification, or a “why,” a spokesperson or department contact is a better approach.
- **Avoid a broad request as a first step.** If you are still defining the story, start with spokespeople, interviews, the council record, or other published materials to narrow your scope to tailor a data request.
- **Consider a two-step approach.** First submit a narrow request to learn what exists and then send targeted follow-ups informed by your review of the initial data to locate additional information.
- **Indicate the topics you are interested in but don’t rely on speculative keywords.** Keywords are only useful if they are meaningful and limited. Relying on keywords risks missing data you are interested in and pulling large amounts of information you aren’t interested in into review.

[Submit a data request](#)



Appointed Boards and Commissions (ABCs)

Boards and Commissions

Appointed Boards and Commissions (ABCs) offer a direct way for residents to advise City leadership, help shape local policy, and provide community input. They are created by City Council resolution and focus on specific topics, such as the Bicycle Advisory Committee or Minneapolis Advisory Committee on Aging. ABCs do not have decision-making authority and operate entirely under the direction of the City Council and Mayor.

Independent bodies

Independent bodies are policy-making groups with decision-making authority. They are created two ways – by state law or the City Charter and by city ordinance.

Those created by state law or the City Charter

- Operate independently from the City Council
- Have broad authority to make decisions in specific policy areas
- One example is the Charter Commission

Those created by city ordinance

- Are supervised by the City Council and Mayor
- Have limited, delegated authority to make certain decisions
- Often referred to as “quasi-independent”
- One example is the Planning Commission

Appointment process

The Office of City Clerk manages the ABCs appointment process. We notify the public when the open appointment process begins. Members must apply and be appointed to a seat by an “appointing authority,” in most cases, this is the City Council and Mayor through the appointment process. All seats have set terms that stay the same no matter who is in them. The term belongs to the seat, not the person. Terms run on a set schedule and don’t change if someone joins or leaves. Additionally, some ABCs have specific restrictions or requirements to apply to seats, such as residing in a given area or have certain professional or lived experience.

[Learn more about boards and commissions](#)



City Hall Press Workroom

The Legislative Department runs the Press Workroom for media covering City Council. It's a space where journalists can watch the meeting and work. It is next to Council Chambers in Room 382. Journalists from newspapers, TV, radio, or other news organizations must apply for access to use the room.

How to apply

Apply by filling out the online application. Please review the Press Workroom Policy before submitting your application. Once approved, we will give you an access code for the room.

[View Press Workroom application](#)



Hours and access

The room is available Monday through Friday during normal business hours, unless a City Council meeting extends beyond normal business hours. It will be available starting 30 minutes before City Council meetings. Special requests for access can be made by emailing Council News.

Legislative Glossary

City Council uses a lot of legal terms and acronyms. We created a glossary that defines those terms so you can better understand how the City government works.

Here are some key terms to know when covering the City Council:

- **Adjournment**
 - The official end to a meeting.
- **Adopt**
 - Parliamentary term for favorable action on a recommendation or report on any matter or the passage (positive enactment) of a legislative measure.
- **Amend**
 - Parliamentary term for an alteration to a motion, either by addition, deletion, or substitution, that improves the pending question or provides a suitable alternative.
- **Appropriation**
 - A specific sum of money allocated by formal action for expenditure by a specific entity, from a specific source, and for a specific purpose.
- **Assessment, Special**
 - Charges applied to a property owner for improvements to streets, sewer, and/or water utilities, generally paid over a specified period.
- **Author**
 - The Council Member introducing a legislative measure; also known as the measure's sponsor.
- **Chair**
 - Common term referring to the presiding officer of a meeting body.
- **Code of Ordinances**
 - The official, published compilation of municipal law, policies and regulations, organized and arranged by subject matter.
- **Consent Agenda**
 - A separate docket (agenda) composed only of matters deemed to be routine and non-controversial; the consent agenda is considered under a single motion. If a Council Member wishes to have further discussion on any matter listed on the consent agenda, it can be removed and set aside for further consideration.
- **Constituent**
 - A resident of a specific ward (or district) of the community.
- **Council Cycle**
 - The two-week period which culminates with the meeting of the full City Council at which time formal action is taken on all matters referred by its standing committees. The standing policy committees meet during the two-week period prior to each regular meeting of the full City Council.

- **Effective Date**
 - The date an official act takes legal effect. The effective date is based on publication in the City's official newspaper, pursuant to City Charter, Article IV, § 4.4 (d). The standard timeline for legal publication is eight days after final action by the City Council, unless a separate effective date is specified within the act.
- **Fiscal Year**
 - The defined, twelve-month period for transaction and computation of budgetary and accounting purposes. In Minneapolis, the fiscal year runs concurrent with the calendar year (January to December).
- **Hearing**
 - A meeting, or portion of a meeting, to investigate, gather information, and accept public testimony on a specific matter or matters pending consideration by the City Council or its standing committees.
- **Introduction & Referral Calendar**
 - A list of new legislative measures that, pursuant to previous notice, are formally introduced, given a first reading, and referred to the standing committee(s) having subject-matter jurisdiction.
- **Open Meeting**
 - MN Statute 471.705 covers all meetings that transact official public business (if a quorum is present) to discuss, decide, or receive information. Votes are required to be recorded and all printed material is to be available for public review.
- **Order of Business**
 - The framework within which all matters and measures are presented for consideration by the City Council; it includes: *Call to Order; Reports of Standing Committees; Reports of Special Committees; Introduction & Referral Calendar; Resolutions; Motions; Unfinished Business; New Business; Announcements; and Adjournment.*
- **Ordinance**
 - An official act of legislative character which is general or permanent in nature and is intended to have the effect and force of law, generally prescribing penalty provisions for any violation. An ordinance is comparable to a municipal statute.
- **Quorum**
 - Parliamentary term referring to the minimum number of Council Members who must be in attendance to constitute a public meeting for the transaction of business.
- **Resolution**
 - A written expression of policy or policy intent, or the opinion or will of the municipal corporation as determined by the Mayor and City Council which is administrative and not legislative in character
- **Request for Committee Action (RCA)**
 - A memorandum from a department to initiate action by City Council.

- **Roll Call Vote**

- A voting method in which a Council Member and their vote on a specific question are registered in the official record. Under a roll call vote, the clerk calls each Council Member's name aloud and Council Members vote by responding when their name is called: aye (affirmative); nay (negative); or abstain. At the conclusion of the roll call, the clerk announces the total number voting on each side of the question. The presiding officer is always called last in a roll call. This voting method is also called voting by the Yeas & Nays.

- **Standing Committees**

- Standing Committees consider legislation and other matters and study specific areas of concern and report findings and recommendations to the full City Council.

- **Veto**

- Authority of the Mayor to disapprove action by the City Council. The Council can override the Mayor's veto by a two-thirds vote.

- **Voice Vote**

- A voting method in which Members orally declare their position on a specific question and the presiding officer determines the majority and declares the outcome. In contrast to a roll call vote, the record reflects only whether a question passes or fails and not individual votes of the Members. Voice votes are the standard voting method used in committee; roll call votes are the standard voting method in the full City Council.

- **Vote**

- The formal declaration by a Member registering support, opposition, or abstention with regard to a specific proposal or question under consideration.

- **Ward**

- A specific territory, or area, within the City that is represented by a Council Member. There are thirteen wards in the City of Minneapolis.

[View the full legislative glossary on our website](#)



View the City Council meeting calendar

