



CITY OF CLEVELAND

WINTER 2023 | WWW.CLEVELANDCITYCOUNCIL.ORG

# Cleveland City Council

## YEAR IN REVIEW

### Dear Cleveland Residents:

As the 119th City Council of this great city, our primary goal is to be your voice at City Hall. The seventeen members of this Council accomplished so much for Clevelanders during 2022, but we are just getting started. We have so much more to do together.

As we emerge from the pandemic, your City Council is committed to leading the fight to improve safety, quality of life, education, and so much more for all Clevelanders. We passed impactful, productive, and important legislation in 2022 that will touch the lives of everyday Clevelanders. As this 119th Council enters our second year of work, we are providing you with an update on our accomplishments for Clevelanders – and our priorities for 2023.

**In 2022, Council introduced 1,298 new laws to support Clevelanders and passed 1,259 of them. Some of the major legislation we introduced and passed this year impacting Clevelanders includes:**

- Investing in more quality, affordable housing
- Providing grants and funds to homeowners in need of funding to improve their properties
- Securing additional resources to fight crime
- Approving the appointment of thirteen Clevelanders to the newly formed Community Police Commission
- Allocating funding to fight lead paint poisoning
- Advancing LGBTQ+ rights
- Protecting women's health by providing free feminine hygiene products in city-owned facilities
- Providing Paid Safe Leave to city workers who are victims of domestic violence
- Protecting workers with a new wage theft and payroll fraud law
- Improving road safety through people-friendly design
- Giving tenants another defense to prevent evictions by passing "Pay to Stay" that allows residents to provide back rent – or a voucher for back rent – to stop eviction proceedings

In 2022, Council worked to improve the way we do business. We defined ourselves as a new Council from the beginning. We revamped our Committees to focus on the areas that impact residents the most. We

expanded the Finance Committee to include diversity, equity, and inclusion to ensure all legislation that comes through Council is viewed through those lenses because our city is growing more diverse by the day.

**Council does so much outside of hearing and passing legislation.** We work to help our residents solve problems and get the services and programs they need and deserve. We hold community meetings to hear from our residents. We host utility fairs to connect residents with help and resources in paying utility bills, hearing information about rental assistance, and learning about other residential programs.

**This document includes more in-depth information about some of the legislation highlighted above and its impact on residents and Cleveland.**

Best,  
**Cleveland City Council**



MAJORITY LEADER  
**Kerry McCormack**  
WARD 3 COUNCIL MEMBER

COUNCIL PRESIDENT  
**Blaine A. Griffin**  
WARD 6 COUNCIL MEMBER

MAJORITY WHIP  
**Jasmin Santana**  
WARD 14 COUNCIL MEMBER



## WATCH COUNCIL MEETINGS ONLINE!

**You Tube**

(LIVE & RECORDED)

[youtube.com/user/clevelandcitycouncil](https://youtube.com/user/clevelandcitycouncil)

**TV 20**

(LIVE)

[tv20cleveland.com/watch-now/](https://tv20cleveland.com/watch-now/)

To find listings of upcoming council and committee meetings visit: [clevelandcitycouncil.org/resources/events](https://clevelandcitycouncil.org/resources/events)



# 2022 WRAP-UP

- Council welcomes five new members.
- Council President Blaine A. Griffin reorganizes committees to focus on the residents of Cleveland.

JAN

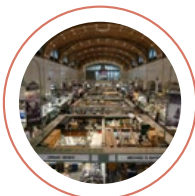


FEB

- Cleveland City Council budget hearings take place.
- Council members approve federal Community Development Block Grant funding to improve parks, demolish blighted homes, advancing neighborhood initiatives and more.

- Council approves City's annual budget, putting its focus on people.
- Council moves forward legislation supporting West Side Market vendors.

MAR



APR

- Council supports democracy in approving equipment & medical donations to Ukraine.
- Council reinforces support for community development in approving a loan for the historic Shaker Square.

- Council invests in homeowners and renters by establishing a revolving loan fund for repair and rehabilitation.

MAY



JUNE

- Council re-establishes Urban Forestry Commission to improve environmental justice.
- Council approves creation of Cleveland Commission on Black Women and Girls.

- Council improves park access by accepting county funds for a new park to be constructed near Central Recreation Center.

JULY



AUG

- Council passes "Pay to Stay" legislation, helping to reduce evictions in the city.
- Council enacts law to require video footage be released within 7 days of incidents involving a police officer's use of deadly force.

- Council introduces wage theft and payroll fraud prevention law to protect local workers; approves law in December.

SEPT



OCT

- \$17 million added to ensure Cleveland homes are lead safe, an initiative Council started in 2019.
- Advances LGBTQ+ rights and protects youth.

- Council supports free and fair elections by passing a law to ban the harassment of election officials.
- Approves doubling program of specially trained police and mental health specialists responding to emergency calls for mental health crises.

NOV



DEC

- Council protects victims of domestic violence with new Paid Safe Leave legislation. Cleveland becomes one of a handful of cities nationally to offer the benefit and support for city employees.



# Look Ahead to Council's 2023

As the legislative branch, Council will continue to work on important issues in 2023. Here are a few upcoming initiatives:



## American Rescue Plan Act

Council will continue to work on ensuring the federal government's historic investment in the city will go to important projects and tangible improvements for the residents of Cleveland.



## Housing Funding

Provide assistance to make homebuying easier and allocating more funds for housing construction and rehabilitation projects in underinvested neighborhoods.



## Community Benefit Agreements

Council will introduce legislation this year to ensure developers who seek financial aid from the City of Cleveland provide real community benefits for residents.



## Construction Reform Ordinance

Council plans to propose a charter amendment which will complement the proposed Community Benefit Agreements and focus on expanding optimal project delivery systems for public projects.

Cleveland City Council

## Legislative Process

### WHO WRITES LEGISLATION?

City Council members and the Mayor can write and submit legislation. Directors of departments within the city can also request City Council members to submit legislation on behalf of a department.

### HOW DOES LEGISLATION BECOMES A PUBLIC RECORD?

Legislation is read out loud into the city record by the Clerk of Council as part of the proceedings of each City Council meeting.

### WHEN DOES AN ORDINANCE BECOME A LAW?

After the ordinance is signed by the Council President, Clerk of Council and Mayor. Ordinances become law 30 days after passage. If the legislation is declared an emergency by a two-thirds vote of the Council, the legislation will take effect immediately upon the Mayor's signature or 10 days after passage if not signed by the Mayor.

### HOW AN ORDINANCE BECOMES A LAW:



**Ordinance introduced by Council Members or Mayor on behalf of residents**

Set up in Law Department

Outfitted for journey by City Clerk

First Reading



**Routed by City Clerk to appropriate departments for review.**

Returned to City Clerk and committees



**Council Committee hearings; amendments adopted at this stage**

After either the First or the Second Reading, ordinances may be passed "under suspension" (requires 2/3rds of council agreeing)

If needed, a Third Reading then Final Passage



Signed by Clerk of Council, Council President and Mayor

**Becomes law!**

To learn more about the legislative process of Cleveland City Council, visit:  
[clevelandcitycouncil.org/legislation-laws/legislative-process](https://clevelandcitycouncil.org/legislation-laws/legislative-process)



## HEADLINE NEWS

Cleveland City Council passes 'pay to stay' eviction protection for renters



Cleveland City Council passes resolution opposing state's new permitless concealed carry law



Cleveland City Council renews push for trauma resource programs at rec centers



Council committee advances loads of legislation ahead of year's final meeting



Cleveland City Council makes big changes in 2022



Cleveland City Council passes legislation protecting election workers: Meeting recap



Cleveland City Council approves spending \$17 million for lead safety in homes: Stimulus Watch



City leaders to vote on technology to reduce gun violence in several Cleveland neighborhoods



Cleveland City Council votes on members of new Community Police Commission



Cleveland councilwomen affirm 'strong and open support of abortion access'



17 members-elect sworn in at Cleveland City Council meeting Monday night



Cleveland City Council considers a Commission on Black women, girls following a 2020 report



Cleveland City Council approves American Rescue Plan spending on social services





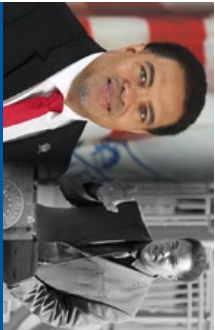
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CITY OF CLEVELAND

# Cleveland City Council



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**WARD 6 COUNCIL MEMBER**  
**Blaine A. Griffin**  
**COUNCIL PRESIDENT**  
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**WARD 7 COUNCIL MEMBER**  
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**WARD 10 COUNCIL MEMBER**  
**Anthony T. Hairston**  
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**WARD 11 COUNCIL MEMBER**  
**Brian Mooney\***  
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*\*Member as of January 9, 2023. Danny Kelly  
Appointed January 9; sworn in January 12.*



**WARD 12 COUNCIL MEMBER**  
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**WARD 13 COUNCIL MEMBER**  
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CITY OF CLEVELAND

# Cleveland City Council

YEAR IN REVIEW

CLEVELAND CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT  
**Blaine A. Griffin**  
COUNCIL MEMBER, WARD 6

CITY CLERK, CLERK OF COUNCIL  
**Patricia J. Britt**

**Cleveland City Hall**  
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**Website**  
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**Social Media**  
@clecitycouncil



# We need your input!

Please take a few minutes to complete  
**this Community Benefits survey.**

It will help inform how we work with  
developers and contractors to improve  
quality of life in the city of Cleveland.

**To participate, please visit:**  
tinyurl.com/Cleveland-CBA-survey



SCAN ME

## ABOUT COUNCIL MEETINGS

**Committee meetings** are held in-person at Cleveland City Hall (601 Lakeside Ave.) in the Mercedes Cotner Council Committee Room 217.

**Regular Council meetings** are held in-person at Cleveland City Hall (601 Lakeside Ave.) in City Council Chambers on the second floor.

**All meetings are broadcast live:**

**YouTube**  
youtube.com/user/ClevelandCityCouncil

**TV20 (Spectrum Cable - Cleveland)**  
Channel 1020

**TV 20 Livestream**  
tv20cleveland.com/watch-now/

**Upcoming council and committee meetings:** clevelandcitycouncil.org/resources/events

**Council welcomes Public Comment!** To register to speak at the next regular Monday council meeting, please visit: clevelandcitycouncil.org/resources/public-comment