



Ward 12 News

Councilwoman Rebecca Maurer ■ FALL 2022 ■ www.clevelandcitycouncil.org

A message from Councilwoman Maurer

In late May, I found myself in City Council's grand, ornate chambers, standing before one of the toughest crowds I've faced since getting sworn in to Council: a group of pre-schoolers.

We were hosting a visit from a child care center in Ward 12, and in each of our large red seats, a small preschooler was sitting, staring at me. I was in the front of the hall with a large paper, laying out an important vote. We had two types of popsicles. One is grape and one is strawberry. The students got to cast their vote between the two. Which one do you pick? There was a heated debate. In the end, each child got a sticker and got to walk up to cast their vote. Strawberry won in landslide.

I share this story because it embodies so much of what I love about serving each of you on Cleveland City Council. First, it's on-the-ground work, working with real Clevelanders (and that day, real Cleveland kids). Second, it's about democracy, policy, and education. It's about making Clevelanders feel connected to their



local government and feeling like their local government serves them. And it's about returning the sense of pride that Clevelanders feel in their city.

Hosting a group of pre-schoolers that day was one small step. My hope is that they remember the day they got to take a vote at City Hall. I think you will see from this newsletter that we are taking actions

large and small to live out those same values every day.

As always, I am honored to represent our ward. Please enjoy this first newsletter covering our first nine months in office. My hope is that this newsletter covers where we've been and where we are going next.

Meet with Mayor Justin Bibb & Councilwoman Maurer



Ward 12 Town Hall

Tuesday, October 18 at 6 p.m.
Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Third Federal Rotunda
7007 Broadway Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44105

Third Federal parking lot
accessible at 7100 Aetna Rd.

The Ward 12 office is providing a free shuttle to the town hall.

Ben Franklin Parking Lot	Denison Elementary Parking Lot	Third Federal
4:50 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	5:15 p.m.
5:30 p.m.	5:40 p.m.	5:55 p.m.

Shuttle will run in reverse after the event

Looking for more Ward 12 news
straight from City Hall?

Sign up for the email
newsletter from
**Councilwoman
Rebecca Maurer**



Signing up is easy

Scan this code using your phone's camera. You can also enter bit.ly/Ward12Newsletter into any web browser.

The Ward 12 newsletter provides regular updates about community issues, city services, and neighborhood events.

These paper newsletters will continue as well. We will use the emails for more frequent updates.



Our first 8 months

January

- Passing the Budget
- Valentine's Day from the E. 63rd Street Book Club
- Visiting the Steel Mill
- Dealing with Garbage Dumps



- Swearing In Ceremony
- Covid Test Giveaways
- Snow Storms
- Learning from snowplow drivers at Public Works

February



- Marching in the St. Patrick's Day
- Attending fish fries
- Following up on demolitions
- Working on home repairs

- Block Club donations
- April clean-ups
- Fleet Avenue Bunny Hop
- More clean-ups



- Working with Councilman Starr to keep the jail out of Slavic Village
- Hosting community meeting
- Old Brooklyn Takeover at Brighton Park
- Opening Day for OBALL

March



- Working with Councilman Starr to keep the jail out of Slavic Village
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- Summer canvassing in Ward 12
- Passing the Cleveland Commission on Black Women & Girls
- Attending Cleveland History Days at Metropolitan Coffee
- Speaking at Pride Cleveland



April

May



- Street Repaving
- Visiting Ward 12 senior buildings
- More canvassing
- Attending Iron Ward Music in the Park

- More senior building visits
- Spring Road community conversation
- Lead-safe housing training
- Ward 12 back-2-school event



June

July



August

Our Big Three Goals

1 Better City Services: How we're improving services

Our first priority as an office is to provide top-notch city services to the residents of Ward 12. From delivering new garbage cans to mowing vacant lots, these services make a huge difference in our quality of life. For years, the Council office has played a pivotal road in providing those services. That's why the Ward 12 office is committed to providing top-tier city services to the residents of our Ward.

This constituent service work includes two things. First, we enthusiastically respond to the calls we receive. And second, we also work with the Bibb Administration to create systematic changes to the way City Hall works. The goal is to provide these services faster and better for every Clevelander without a need for the Council office.



This July, Councilwoman Maurer became the first councilmember to release comprehensive data on the types of calls that the Council office receives. The Ward 12 office received more than 1000 requests for service in the first 110 days in office. The “Ward 12 Constituent Services Report” made quite a splash. There was an exclusive on Channel 5 and a story on the front page of The Plain Dealer.

The report showed that more than half the calls at the Council office were for basic city services that could be handled better directly by City Departments – if those departments were responsive and had the resources to meet all of the requests.

Our commitment at the Ward 12 office is to follow up on this report to make sure that things like garbage bin delivery are done in a more efficient manner. And hopefully there will come a day when you do not need the Council office to get a new garbage bin!

2 Better Neighborhoods: Supporting neighborhood leaders

Our second goal at the council office is to support on-the-ground work in our neighborhoods so that residents can feel safer, happier, and better connected to their communities. This work takes many shapes. For instance, you'll find Councilwoman Maurer attending our Ward 12 block clubs and canvassing to meet with residents one-on-one.

You'll also find the Council office supporting and recognizing key neighborhood leaders like Lucy Torres. Lucy Torres is the 2022 senior of the year for Ward 12.



At the 32nd Annual Senior Day Event held on September 15th at Cleveland Public Hall, Lucy Torres was recognized as our ward's outstanding senior by Councilwoman Maurer, Sonya Pryor-Jones, City of Cleveland Chief of Youth & Family Success, and Council President Blaine A. Griffin.

Lucy Torres was born in Comerío Puerto Rico to Ampero and Luis Bonilla. After high school, she earned a two year degree from University of Sacred Heart, Puerto Rico. After moving to Cleveland, she took courses from Cuyahoga Community College and Cleveland State University.

Ms. Torres worked for the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, Multilingual Multicultural Educational Program for 25 years. Lucy also worked at the City of Cleveland for 10 years as the City's Hispanic Liaison, Cleveland Community Relations Board. Ms. Torres is co-founder of the City of Cleveland's Puerto Rican Parade. She has also served as a member of the Spanish American Committee. Ms. Torres has worked for years to support and elevate the Hispanic community in Cleveland.

Today, you can find Ms. Torres as the leasing manager at Valley Road Villa Apartments in Ward 12. More than 90% of the residents of Valley Road Villa are older adults and Ms. Torres ensures that its residents have the services they need. She helps residents schedule appointments and brings resources to the apartment building that she believes are beneficial. She is a strong advocate and cares deeply about the residents.

Stay tuned for more stories of incredible neighborhood leaders in future newsletters.

3 Change at City Hall: Here's how we're spending ARPA dollars

Our third goal is to support and pass legislation at City Hall that improves your quality of life. Right now, one of the most important topics is how to spend ARPA dollars. These funds can be used to respond to the public health and economic emergency, provide premium pay to essential workers, replace revenue lost due to the pandemic, and make investments in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure.

The city of Cleveland received the eighth highest amount of any municipality in the country at more than \$511 million. To date Council has already allocated more than \$300 million of the funds. The remaining \$200 million will be distributed in the near future. U.S. Treasury rules require all ARPA funding to be contracted by December 31, 2024, and all funds must be spent by December 31, 2026.

For council, home repair programs and construction gap financing were high on the list of projects to be funded, as well as programs that help adult and child victims of domestic violence, rape, and other traumas. Council also included funding for Right to Counsel that gives families facing eviction free legal help.

The chart below reflects Council's ARPA funding priorities. For more information on ARPA, visit <https://www.clevelandohio.gov/ARPA>



Have more questions about Ward 12?

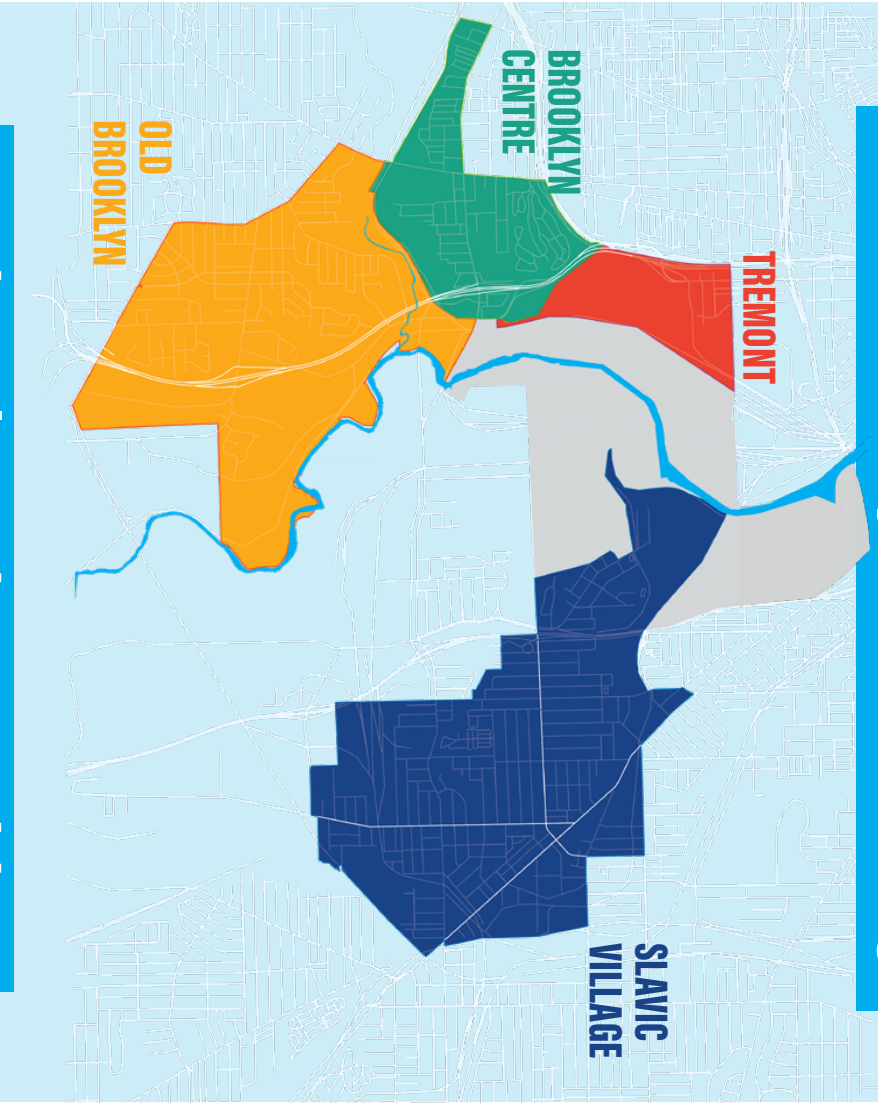
Attend our next drop-in office hours with Councilwoman Maurer

OLD BROOKLYN	SLAVIC VILLAGE	BROOKLYN CENTRE	TREMONT
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14 th	TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15 th	WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16 th	THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17 th
3:00-6:00pm	3:00-6:00pm	3:00-6:00pm	3:00-6:00pm
📍 South Brooklyn Library Branch, 4303 Pearl Rd Cleveland, OH 44109	📍 Slavic Village Library Branch 7224 Broadway Ave Cleveland, OH 44105	📍 Art House Inc., 3119 Denison Ave Cleveland, OH 44109	📍 South Library Branch 3096 Scranton Rd Cleveland, OH 44113

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PERMIT NO. 2893

We are a diverse ward with four distinct neighborhoods on the east side and the west side. We have many differences but a lot in common. One thing is certain:

Ward 12's story is still unfolding



Read on to learn what we are doing
on City Council to help every corner
of our ward thrive.

Important Neighborhood Resources



**Old Brooklyn
Community Dev.
Corporation**
216-459-1000



**Slavic Village
Development
Corporation**
216-429-1182



**Metro West Community
Dev. Organization
(Brooklyn Centre)**
216-961-9073



**Tremont West
Development
Corporation**
216-575-0920

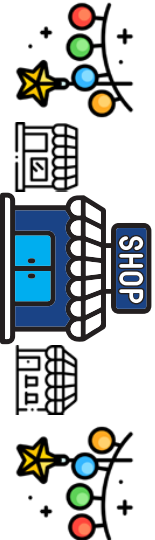


COUNCILWOMAN
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Visit www.clevelandcitycouncil.org/ward-12

Ward 12 News



Submit a Small Business *for our* Ward 12 Holiday Gift Guide

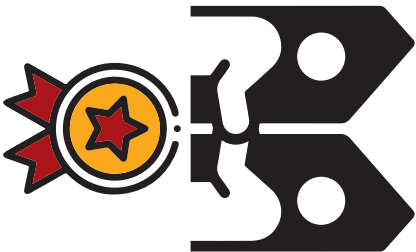
The holidays feel far away but they will be here before you know it. **This year, we are supporting small business by putting together a Ward 12 Holiday Gift Guide.**



To submit a business, scan this QR code, go to bit.ly/Ward12GiftGuide, or call our office at 216-664-4233.

Nominate Your Neighbor

*Are you seeing
a Ward 12
resident go
above and
beyond for the
community?*



Send an email to knoser@clevelandcitycouncil.org with the subject line “Nominate Your Neighbor” and include information about who you are nominating and why. Stories will be used in future newsletters.