



# Ward 12 News



Councilwoman Rebecca Maurer ■ WINTER 2023 ■ [www.clevelandcitycouncil.org](http://www.clevelandcitycouncil.org)

## A message from Councilwoman Maurer



A few weeks ago, I was in the packed City Council committee room, dozens of residents and on-lookers murmuring from the gallery, bright fluorescent lights blaring down. “Councilwoman, as the bill’s sponsor, would you like to make remarks?”

The room fell silent. I reached for the microphone and began to speak.

**“I want to be in the business of building trust.”**

That was the start of my speech as I spoke in favor of the hotly contested “participatory budgeting” initiative.

As I continued, I discussed that participatory budgeting would set aside a small portion of the city budget for residents like you to discuss, develop, and vote on neighborhood initiatives. It is a great program that could build trust between residents of the city and their local government at the same time that it funded small-dollar projects like parks and recreation centers.

We had other co-sponsors, and the support of the Mayor’s administration and hundreds of residents. But the bill

didn’t have enough votes to pass – this time.

Despite this setback, I’ve been thinking about that speech since that day. What I said at that Council committee stands true – I want to be in the business of building trust. And there are lots of other ways I am working to accomplish that goal.

I want to build the trust that if you call the office, we will get back to you – a trust we are building day by day, call by call.

I want to build the trust that assures you that I will support and build critical neighborhood programming. Inside this newsletter, you’ll find information on our spring cleanups and summer event plans.

And I want to build the trust that when big issues come before Council, I will explain them to you. That’s why I’m proud that the inside of this newsletter has a beautiful explainer to give you the basics of what you need to know about this year’s city budget.

If you have any questions about the budget or other matters – please reach out! I’d love to hear from you. Trust is what matters.

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COUNCILWOMAN  
**Rebecca Maurer**



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## Ward 12 News

**What’s the difference between 211 and 311?**

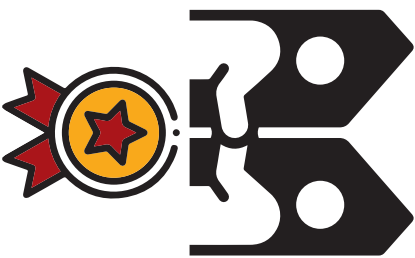


211 is the county-wide number for social services like food pantries, government assistance, and mental health services.

**City of Cleveland Call Center 311**  
311 is the City of Cleveland’s number for city requests like replacement garbage bins, out traffic lights, and clogged sewer drains.

## Nominate Your Neighbor

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



Send an email to [knoser@clevelandcitycouncil.org](mailto: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.

## 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

## 3 ways to connect with the Ward 12 office in 2023



**Organize a spring cleanup**  
Nobody likes litter! Last year, the Ward 12 office helped with 8 separate spring cleanups. This year we want to beat that record. You can volunteer to host a cleanup. We’ll provide supplies, flyers, and access to the city dump. To get started, email [knoser@clevelandcitycouncil.org](mailto:knoser@clevelandcitycouncil.org) or call 216-664-4233

## Schedule a 1-on-1 meeting

The Councilwoman is always available for one-on-one meetings. We are scheduling meetings on-site throughout the ward or at local library branches based on requests. Email [maurer@clevelandcitycouncil.org](mailto:maurer@clevelandcitycouncil.org) or call 216-664-4233 to get an appointment. We’d love to hear from you!



## Host a block meet-up



As the weather warms up, we will be hosting mini-meetings throughout the ward to bring updates from City Hall straight to you. Become a host and we will help you send invitations, schedule a location in your neighborhood, and bring supplies to make it a successful event. Email [knoser@clevelandcitycouncil.org](mailto:knoser@clevelandcitycouncil.org) or call 216-664-4233.



# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE CITY OF CLEVELAND'S BUDGET

THE CITY OF CLEVELAND HAS A **\$1.9 BILLION BUDGET** FOR THIS YEAR

## THIS MONEY IS USED TO RUN OUR CITY

THE BUDGET DETERMINES HOW OUR CITY RUNS, FROM HOW MUCH ROAD SALT WE BUY TO HOW MANY CITY WORKERS WE CAN EMPLOY. THE BUDGET GETS REVIEWED EVERY YEAR.

THIS MONEY GETS

**DIVIDED**  
INTO DIFFERENT FUNDS

## ENTERPRISE FUNDS

**BIG TICKET** SYSTEMS THAT GENERATE AND SPEND THEIR OWN REVENUE LIKE THE WATER DEPARTMENT & THE AIRPORT.

ROUGHLY  
**\$1.2**  
BILLION

ROUGHLY  
**\$700**  
MILLION

## GENERAL FUND

THIS FUND COVERS ALL THE CITY SERVICES THAT DIRECTLY IMPACT RESIDENTS.

SOME OF THE EXPENSES YOU MIGHT RECOGNIZE FROM THE GENERAL FUND:

- POLICE • FIRE • EMS
- BUILDING & HOUSING
- PARKS & LOTS MAINTENANCE
- PUBLIC HEALTH
- DEPARTMENT OF AGING
- MUNICIPAL COURTS
- AND MANY MORE

## HOW THE BUDGET GETS MADE

### JANUARY

AFTER REVIEWING LAST YEAR'S BUDGET ALLOCATIONS, THE MAYOR'S OFFICE CREATES THEIR FIRST DRAFT

### FEBRUARY

- THE "MAYOR'S ESTIMATE" IS DELIVERED TO CITY COUNCIL (FEB 1)
- THE MAYOR COMES TO CITY COUNCIL TO PRESENT THE BUDGET (FEB 14)
- DAILY BUDGET HEARINGS TAKE PLACE & ARE LIVE STREAMED (FEB 14-24)

- COUNCIL & THE MAYOR'S OFFICE AGREE ON ANY CHANGES (FEB 24-MAR 3)

### MARCH

- THE BUDGET IS FINALIZED & READ INTO THE CITY RECORD (MAR 6)
- CITY COUNCIL PASSES THE FINAL BUDGET (MAR 20)

### APRIL

CLEVELAND'S FINAL BUDGET IS DUE TO THE STATE (APR 1)

## THE CITY'S ANNUAL BUDGET REVIEW PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO OUR BEST FOR RESIDENTS



**REBECCA MAURER**  
**YOUR REPRESENTATIVE**  
**ON CLEVELAND CITY COUNCIL**

IT IS MY JOB TO ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT HOW THE BUDGET IS BEING ALLOCATED AND HOW THE MONEY CAN KEEP US SAFE, HEALTHY & THRIVING

[rmaurer@clevelandcitycouncil.org](mailto:rmaurer@clevelandcitycouncil.org)  
— 216-664-4233 —

AS A **RESIDENT** YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO LEARN ABOUT THE BUDGET AND TO SHARE FEEDBACK

WHAT CAN WE DO TO STOP SPEEDERS ON OUR STREETS?

IS RECYCLING IMPORTANT TO THE CITY?

ARE OUR PARKS A CITY PRIORITY?

★ **LISTEN** TO THE BUDGET HEARINGS LIVE IN FEBRUARY

★ **WRITE IN** TO THE MAYOR'S OFFICE OR CITY COUNCIL

★ **SPEAK UP** AT A CITY COUNCIL MEETING

LEARN MORE AT [BIT.LY/CLEBUDGET2023](https://bit.ly/clebudget2023)