In 2023, Council passed 1,465 ordinances (laws) related to safety, service, economic development and more. Some of the major legislation included using federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to directly help residents. Below are highlights:

- Investing tens of millions in providing affordable homes and rehabilitating homes throughout the city.
- Mandating developers receiving City benefits provide Community Benefits for Cleveland residents, neighborhoods, minority businesses, female businesses, and Cleveland small businesses.
- Advocating for Paid Parental Leave for city workers who have or adopt a baby as well as support for those who experience pregnancy loss.
- Providing support for new Veterans Housing for struggling veterans.
- Increasing Fair Employment Wage rate to $15.33/hour for people doing work with the City.
- Funding programs to revitalize Cleveland’s commercial corridors and neighborhoods.
- Toughening curfew law penalties for parents or legal guardians of young people ignoring laws.
- Erasing some $181 million in Clevelanders’ medical debt.
- Providing $2 million in amnesty for Cleveland residents behind on utility bills.
- Increasing Fair Employment Wage rate to $15.33/hour for people doing work with the City.
- Providing support for new Veterans Housing for struggling veterans.
- Increasing Fair Employment Wage rate to $15.33/hour for people doing work with the City.

Council also enacted a new budget process in 2023. One of the most important roles of the legislative branch of government is the role of fiscal oversight. Council members covered much of what happens during two intense weeks in February, but at a measured pace through the committees to gain insight into how the year finished prior to determining how funding will be allocated this year. This enabled council members to review more than just numbers but to also discuss obstacles to delivering quality services and programs to Clevelanders. This process allows Council to explore potential legislative solutions that have little to no cost to the city. This is the first year. Council will still have February budget hearings. We hope to improve this process in 2024 and include more community input in the discussion.

But 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, local businesses, and commuters. 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. Your City Council is committed to working for you. Thank you for your belief in us and your belief in Cleveland.

Best,
Cleveland City Council

Upcoming For 2024

Job and Wealth Creation: Council plans to examine factors restricting or amplifying residents’ ability to find meaningful work and create family prosperity. We aim to improve the quality of life for Cleveland residents, business owners, and constituents.

Following Up on Council Initiatives: Council plans to hold hearings on city initiatives developed through council actions, including briefings on accomplishments or impediments to getting Cleveland homes lead-safe and development projects sponsored by council members throughout the city. Council plans to offer opportunities to hear from stakeholders on these projects and any ideas on improving them or obstacles hurting progress.

Redirecting: The number of Cleveland wards must be reduced from 17 to 15 after the 2020 census results. City Council will hire a consultant in early 2024 to help with the redistricting process, which must be complete by early 2025 to allow candidates for council to know the new ward lines. Council must vote on the new ward lines before they are approved. Council candidates, including current members seeking re-election, must collect signatures and submit petitions to seek office by June 2025.
Council members spent the year working on projects big and small. Some are neighborhood-based and others benefit the entire city. Below are some of the projects and legislation Council members passed to help residents across the city.

JOSEPH T. JONES
Ward 1 Win
Councillor Joseph Jones is promoting a community-led plan to revitalize the Low-Harvard neighborhood and develop a master plan. Councilwoman Jones worked closely with residents to create a plan that will benefit the neighborhood and bring in new retail to revitalize Low Road.

KEVIN L. BISHOP
Veteran's Housing
After years of work, Councillor Kevin Bishop worked with Great Lakes Development Corporation to establish housing for veterans, the project is ready to move forward. Councilwoman Bishop is thrilled to announce that Great Lakes Development Corporation, in conjunction with Cleveland Housing, is poised to provide $250,000 in grant to Union Metro Community Development Corporation for the solution to a building in the 6400 block of Euclid Avenue. The facility will provide affordable housing for 12 veterans, and will be located on Euclid Avenue, near East 66th Street. The facility, when complete, will be the first of its kind in the city and will be a beacon of hope for veterans in the city.

KEVIN CONWELL
Opening of the Davis
In November, Councillor Kevin Conwell (Ward 17) celebrated the opening of "The Davis" Housing Complex, located at 12000 Euclid Avenue. The complex provides approximately 188 senior units, which Cleveland Council expects will benefit residents of all incomes, looking to remain in the Cleveland neighborhood. In addition to the opening, the Davis will include 114 affordable units, a dedicated family center for children, a playground for younger residents, a wellness facility, and an outdoor pool.

DEBORAH A. GRAY
Councilwoman Gray's Support for Youth, Young Adults, & Trades Training
In November, Councilwoman Deborah Gray (Ward 4) introduced three new ordinances to support youth, young adults, and trades training. These ordinances will bring new opportunities to students and adults alike by building a pathway to college, training, and other educational opportunities. She also introduced a new resolution to provide affordable housing and improved services for 48 single adult college students and their children. CVille needs to be a leader in supporting students, families, and all Cleveland students.

RICHARD A. STARR
Louise Stokes Scholar House Opening
Cleveland Councilman Richard Starr, in his role to help as a leader in the city, worked to bring a new facility to the community. Councilman Starr is pleased to announce that the Louise Stokes Scholar House is now open, providing affordable housing and improved services for 48 single adult college students and their children. CVille needs to be a leader in supporting students, families, and all Cleveland students.

JASMIN SANTANANA
CentroVilla 25 ground breaking
Council Majority Whip Jasmín Santanana (Ward 14) is fighting for better housing, while also providing more affordable housing and commercial opportunities. This effort is a result of Cleveland City Council's CentroVilla 25, a $1.9 million investment to transform 25 buildings on the千万不要面面俱到, 重点讲述其中一部分。例如：

JENNY CONWELL
Habitat for Humanity investment
Councilmember Jenny Conwell spearheaded legislation to provide additional investment for Habitat for Humanity. In 2021, Habitat for Humanity Cleveland announced its first investment for Habitat for Humanity to help provide more affordable homeownership opportunities to Clevelanders. This effort is being supported by Cleveland City Council, with a $2 million investment to transform 25 buildings on the West Side of Cleveland. The project includes the rehabilitation of 25 buildings on the West Side of Cleveland, providing affordable housing options for low-income families and individuals.

BRIAN KAY
Utility debt relief
Cleveland Council President and Mayor supported legislation providing up to 12 months of utility bill assistance to low-income residents of Cleveland. The bipartisan biennial budget includes provisions for a utility debt relief program, which will provide up to 12 months of bill assistance to eligible residents. The program is designed to help low-income residents avoid utility disconnections and prevent utilities from shutting off services.

MICHAEL D. POLENSEK
Longfellow Senior Housing
Cleveland Councilman Michael Polensek, in his role as Cleveland's Senior Councilman, fought to bring affordable housing for those over 62. Cleveland's first new senior building, the Longfellow Senior Housing complex, will be a new home for Clevelanders. It will provide 52 units of affordable housing in the 6400 block of Euclid Avenue. The facility will provide affordable housing for seniors, including 9 units with on-site support services.

STEPHANIE HOWSE-JONES
MAGNET opening
The Manufacturing and Incubation Growth Network (MAGNET), a manufacturing and incubation facility, moved into its new home at 4440 Euclid Avenue. The facility will provide a space for startups to develop and expand, creating 100 new jobs and boosting our economy by $18 million by 2033. The facility will also provide space for 50 small businesses, +50 new jobs, and boost our economy by $18 million by 2033. Cleveland's manufacturing and incubation facility will be a hub for innovation and growth.

KERRY MCCORMACK
West Side Market investment
For years, community members, vendors, and others have been demanding change in how the West Side Market is managed. Last year, Cleveland City Council approved legislation to create an independent management board overseeing the success and wellbeing of the market. Additionally, City Council allocated $150,000 in federal funding to support this transition. Clevelanders support this project.

DANNY KELLY
Minimum wage increase for contract employees
In Cleveland, we have been facing economic challenges that affect all industries. Cleveland City Council has taken action to address this issue by raising the minimum wage for contract employees. This increase will provide a boost to workers across the city, helping to improve their quality of life and support their families.

REBECCA MAURER
New gym shared with Stella Walsh Rec Center
In July, Councilwoman Rebecca Mauro (Ward 17) worked tirelessly to build a new trades training facility, build a new trades training facility, build a new trades training facility, build a new trades training facility. In addition, she worked to bring a new behavioral health services facility to her ward, build a new trades training facility, build a new trades training facility, build a new trades training facility. Those ordinances will bring about $2 million in utility bill assistance to low-income residents. She was committed to turning community requests into action. With City Council voting in favor of her ordinances, Ward 4 and Cleveland residents saw this as a win.

KRIS HARSH
Medical debt relief
Last April, Cleveland City Council unanimously passed legislation allowing Clevelanders to apply for a medical debt amnesty program. The program provides a one-time opportunity for Clevelanders to pay off up to $2 million in medical debt. The program is designed to provide relief to those who are struggling to pay off medical debt, while also reducing the burden on the city's budget.

JENNY CONWELL
Paid family leave
Cleveland City Council President and Mayor and the City supported legislation providing up to 12 weeks of paid family leave to eligible residents of Cleveland. The bipartisan legislation includes provisions for a paid family leave program, which will provide up to 12 weeks of paid family leave to eligible residents. The program is designed to help low-income residents avoid family disconnections and prevent social services from shutting off services.

JENNIFER JONES
Ward 1 Win
Councillor Jennifer Jones has been working tirelessly to bring a new gymnasium to the community. In November, she announced the opening of the brand new gymnasium located at 12000 Euclid Avenue. The facility will provide affordable housing, a wellness facility, and an outdoor pool for residents of all ages. The facility is designed to be a hub for community gatherings and events.
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 Mondays at 7 p.m. 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/

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

ABOUT COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

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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
Website
clevelandcitycouncil.org
Social Media
@clecitycouncil

(LIVE & RECORDED)
youtube.com/user/clevelandcitycouncil
(LIVE)
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