

The Neighborhood Press

Ward 13 Councilman Kris Harsh | FALL 2025 | www.clevelandcitycouncil.org/ward-13

HOME REPAIR WORKSHOP

THE HOME EDUCATION SERIES

Home Repair Workshops Fall 2025

Old Brooklyn residents, OBCDC is once again holding its home repair education series. These workshops are conducted by leading industry experts who will help you improve your home's value while saving money:

- **Tools 101** – Learn about essential electrical tools and how they can assist you with your home repairs.
- **Carpentry & Drywall** – Discover the basics of internal carpentry and drywall work to enhance your home projects.
- **Electrical** – Learn simple outlet and home electrical repairs that you can do yourself without hiring a contractor.
- **Plumbing** – Get tips on basic plumbing repairs, from fixing a faucet to repairing your clogged toilet.
- **Tuckpointing** - Learn how to repair your crumbling brick foundation with mortar application techniques.

For details on these workshops, visit tinyurl.com/OBCDCHRW



Ward 13 Completes First-ever Ward Wide Housing Check-up

Councilman Kris Harsh recently finished a comprehensive, street-level review of every residential structure in **Ward 13—8,507 homes**—making it the first ward in Cleveland to complete a proactive, door-to-door housing code survey led by a Council member.

Launched shortly after Harsh took office, the effort aimed to spot small issues early, support residents with clear guidance, and strengthen neighborhood pride through responsible upkeep.

"Code enforcement is both help and accountability," Harsh said. "The best way to prevent problems from growing is to identify them early and deal with them quickly."

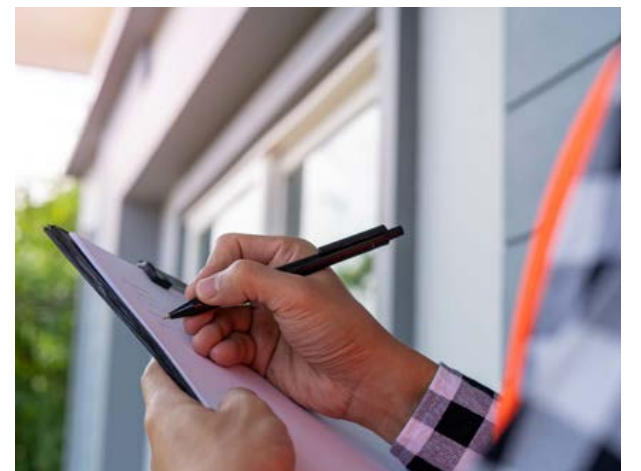
What the survey found

- **77%** of homes were in excellent condition and needed no follow-up.
- **1,845** homes received courtesy letters about minor exterior issues (peeling paint, fallen gutters, missing handrails). These were not escalated to city enforcement.
- **115** properties were flagged for major issues. Owners were asked to submit a remediation plan within 30 days; several cases were referred to the Department of Building and Housing.

Harsh, who has a background in housing, conducted the inspections himself, evaluating only what was visible from the public right-of-way. Outreach was tailored to each owner, ranging from thank-you notes to firm correction requests. For rentals, letters went to the tax-listed address to ensure landlords were aware of the condition of their investments.

Connecting residents to help

More than **100 residents** received printed or emailed guides to over a dozen home-repair programs. Since the initiative began, Ward 13 has seen **permit activity rebound to near pre-pandemic levels**.



Spotlight on out-of-area ownership

The survey also revealed performance gaps by ownership:

- Out-of-area landlords own **6.3%** of Ward 13 homes but account for **13% of major** and **9.9%** of minor violations.
- These owners were **2.75x more likely** to have major issues than local owners.

While Harsh criticized speculative investors who "put little investment into the property and focus solely on rent collection," he noted many landlords—including some from **California, Texas, and Columbus**—responded quickly and started repairs.

A model for Cleveland

Interest in Ward 13's proactive approach is growing citywide. Harsh has called for a broader initiative and previously advocated reallocating City Hall staff to expand exterior inspections.

"Systematic, fair code enforcement works," Harsh said. "It preserves neighborhoods, boosts housing values, and shows we care about our community—an investment in the next generation."

Need assistance or a copy of the Home Repair Resource Guide?

Email khmarsh@clevelandcitycouncil.org or call 216-664-2943.



ESTABROOK Neighborhood Resource & Recreation Center

VISIT or CALL for a complete listing of current activities and programs!

Location 4125 Fulton Rd
Phone 216-664-4149





DO NOT FEED THE DEER



Feeding deer endangers both their health and your safety.

Supplemental feeding of deer may actually decrease its chance of survival. Encouraging deer to congregate in unusually high numbers at a feeding area makes them more vulnerable to predators and at risk for the spread of disease.

PLEASE BE ADVISED:

In the city of Cleveland, **it is illegal to keep your trash cans in the front yard.** They must be at least behind the front door line and in the rear of the house when possible. Also, **it is illegal to park automobiles in the grass, especially in your front yard!** These are 2 simple things we can do keep Old Brooklyn beautiful.

– *Councilman Harsh*



Snow Heroes





CITY OF CLEVELAND
Mayor Justin M. Bibb
AGING
CHORE Program

Be a Snow Hero this Winter

Volunteer to shovel snow for older adults and neighbors with disabilities in Cleveland. Help keep sidewalks safe and build a stronger, more connected community one snowstorm at a time.

What Does a Snow Hero Do?

- ✓ Shovel sidewalks, stairs, ramps and a 36" path to the door
- ✓ Bring your own shovel or snowblower & dress for the weather
- ✓ Complete assignments within 48 hours of 3"+ snowfall
- ✓ Snow Hero will be matched with a resident in need of snow removal

Sign Up Today

clevelandohio.gov/aging
jsmith21@clevelandohio.gov
[216-857-7165](tel:216-857-7165)

Or Scan



Saving College Radio

As many of you have heard, Cleveland State University essentially gave away its radio station WCSB 89.3.

Under CSU, WCSB 89.3 was a student- and community-run station, featuring diverse genres of music and talk. It was beloved and engaged a varied listening audience who turned in for jazz, for ethnic-centered shows, for restaurant reviews, and more.

There were real opportunities for student leadership and growth, and numerous people have written to Council about how they got their start at the radio station that evolved in their life-long careers in radio, both on air and behind the scenes.

Besides being a listner of WCSB, I'm a fan of college radio stations having worked at two while a student.

WCSB 89.3 is now JazzNEO. The analog signal airs jazz 24/7.

Council unanimously passed a resolution stating in part, "this Council unequivocally supports the students and community members who continue to organize to



"...numerous people have written to Council about how they got their start at the radio station..."

reclaim their station and the culture of student-run WCSB 89.3 FM."

More than 250 people have written to Council expressing their displeasure with this decision. Groups are organizing to fight this decision. It doesn't have to be this hard.

I'm calling on the president of CSU President Laura Bloomberg and Bloomberg and Ideastream Public Media President and CEO Kevin Martin to come back to the table to amend the agreement and bring CSU students back to the radio station.

– *Councilman Kris Harsh*



IMAGES FROM THE 2025



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Serving the Old Brooklyn and Stockyard Neighborhoods

The Neighborhood Press

FALL 2025 | www.clevelandcitycouncil.org/ward-13

A Reminder from Councilman Kris Harsh

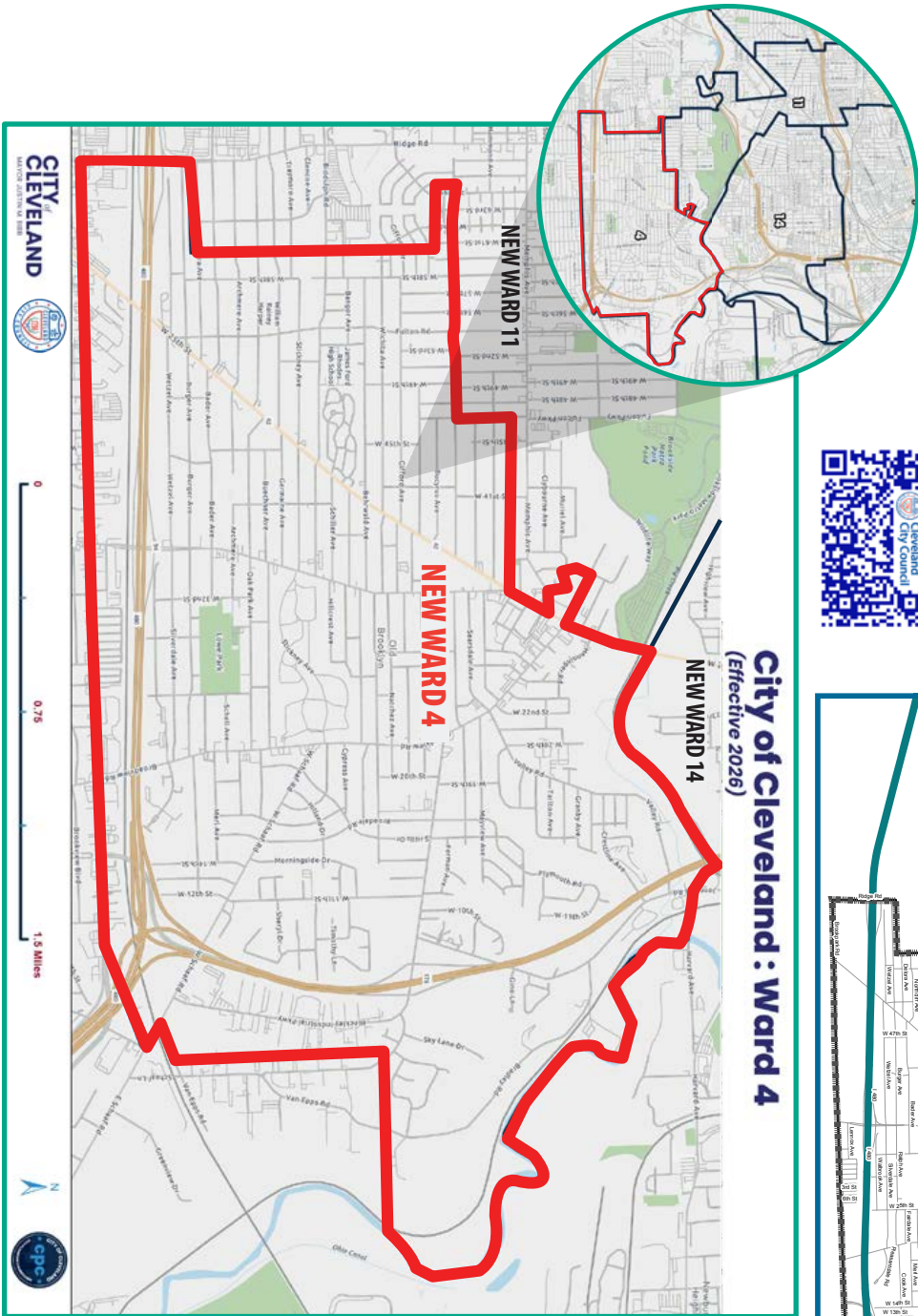
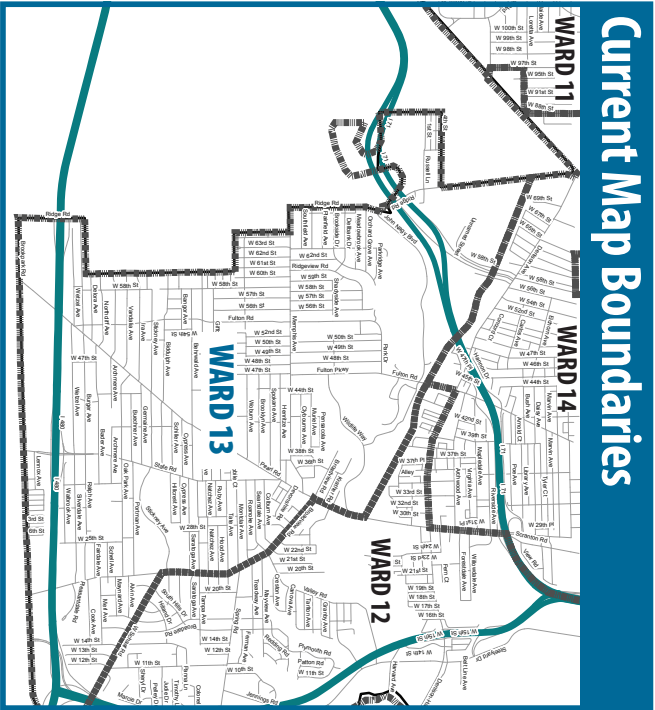
In 2008, Cleveland voters approved a charter amendment that ties the size of City Council to the city's population. **With the completion of the 2020 U.S. Census, we were required to reduce the number of Council seats from 17 to 15. Every ward in the city was altered.**

Below is a map showing the **new ward boundaries** that will affect this year's elections and will become the legal boundaries in January of next year. When you vote this year, you will be voting for a Councilperson to represent these new wards.

The Cuyahoga County Board of Elections should have already contacted you regarding these changes, including any updates to your polling location. **To find your polling location** call the Cuyahoga Board of Elections at **216-443-8683**, **scan the QR code below**, or visit **boe.cuyahogacounty.gov/voters**. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions about these maps.

Kris Harsh

Ward 13 Councilman



WARD 13 COUNCIL MEMBER

Kris Harsh



Serving the Old Brooklyn and Stockyard Neighborhoods

City Hall

601 Lakeside Avenue, Room 220
Cleveland, OH 44114

Ward Office

Estabrook Recreation Center
4125 Fulton Rd, Cleveland, OH 44144

Phone 216-664-2943

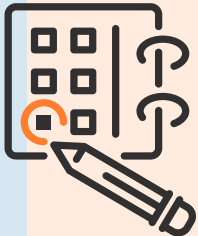
Email kharsh@clevelandcitycouncil.org

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Monthly Ward Meetings at Estabrook

2nd Wednesday of Every Month at 6:00 pm

LOCATION Estabrook Rec Center • 4125 Fulton Road



ABOUT CITY 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
- **TV20 Livestream** tv20.cleveland.com/watch-now/

City Council welcomes

Public Comment!

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

Have you heard about 311?

Your link to city services
—just one call or click away



Whether you're reporting a pothole, missed trash pickup, or even finding resources like senior programs, 311 is here to make it simple.

311 or 216-664-2000 | clevelandohio.gov/311