



*As this sign reflects, the University District of Columbus includes several neighborhoods in and around The Ohio State University campus, including Glen Echo, The Circles, Old North Columbus, and Weinland Park, among others.*

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## CITY COUNCIL

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### Department Description

Columbus City Council is the legislative authority and chief policy-making arm of city government, empowered by City Charter to exercise control over city expenditures. Citizens elect the seven-member council at-large to four-year terms of office. Council's primary responsibilities include: reviewing and adopting the annual operating and capital budgets, authorizing certain contracts, and enacting amendments to the Columbus City Code. In addition to its fiscal control and regulatory authority, City Council establishes land use policy through its zoning powers.

The Council works closely with the administrative (executive) branch of city government in the formation of policy impacting public safety, finance, economic development, and the delivery

### Department Mission

To provide high quality, responsive service to the residents of Columbus, and to demonstrate the utmost respect for the citizens and for each other in a workplace that highly values teamwork, personal integrity, and competence. City Council's overriding goal is to always do what is best for the citizens of the City of Columbus.

## City Council

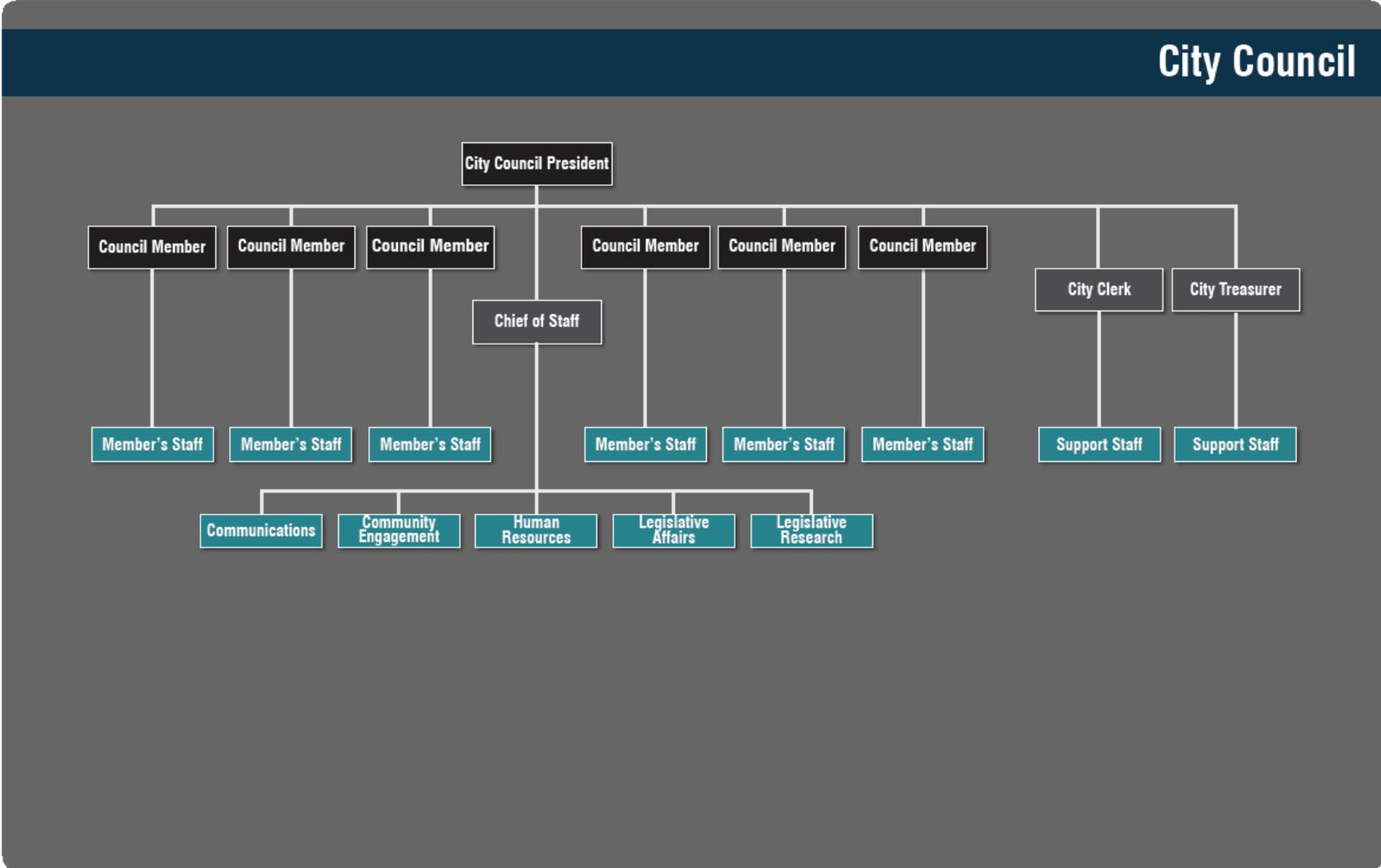
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of core city services. City Council also initiates and facilitates ongoing cooperative efforts with other government entities, the business community, and other institutions to improve the overall high quality of life for Columbus residents.

Legislative aides, legislative assistants, the Legislative Research Office, the Legislative Affairs Office, and the Office of Community Engagement provide City Council members information and guidance on public policy decisions impacting public safety, budgetary, economic development, and community matters.

Council appoints the City Clerk, who maintains the journal of City Council activity, codifying city ordinances in accordance with established guidelines. Council also appoints the City Treasurer, whose duties include the investment of all city funds.





## Strategic Priorities For 2017

Columbus City Council's 2017 strategic priorities will focus on five areas: policies intended to support the health and welfare of all residents of Columbus; maintaining public safety; economic development and job creation; open, efficient, and effective governance; and prudent financial oversight and the maintenance of the city's fiscal health. In pursuit of these priorities, Columbus City Council will:

Support policies and programs that foster the growth and development of small businesses within Columbus, particularly among disadvantaged small business enterprises.

Continue to work with the administration on reviewing best practices for the most effective application of economic development agreements and job growth incentives.

Promote initiatives that provide for upward economic mobility and equitable labor policies for working-class families.

Continue the ongoing examination of the efficiencies and effectiveness of various mass transportation options in the context of the city's projected future growth. Coordinate with the Department of Public Service and other city agencies on the execution of Smart Cities program deliverables.

Ensure that all operating and capital budget measures are compatible with the need for retaining the city's top credit rating.

Continue to work with the administration and the respective collective bargaining units to ensure proper staffing levels within the Divisions of Police and Fire to maintain the safety of Columbus neighborhoods, and to support the promotion of diversity recruitment within the city's safety forces.

Continue to fund supplemental neighborhood safety strategies, including Community Crime Patrol, and invest sufficient capital and non-general fund dollars in the facilities, vehicles, tools, and technology necessary to maintain public safety.

Continue to work with the administration to stabilize neighborhoods through increased investment in infrastructure improvements, the elimination of vacant and abandoned buildings, and the development of affordable and inclusive housing.

Continue to partner with non-profit organizations and human services providers to deliver basic human services, emergency housing, and healthcare to low-income families and others within the community.

Continue efforts to promote Columbus as a destination for travel and tourism, and to retain Columbus-based talent, through continued investment in Experience Columbus and the Greater Columbus Arts Council.

Continue to work with the administration to expand the city's environmental agenda, including improvements to city vehicles and facilities, and the promotion of green strategies and incentives that encourage responsible, sustainable development.

Continue to identify and implement policies and practices to make government more effective, efficient, and accessible, including the ongoing implementation of the city's ethics policies and the adoption of new technologies that increase residents' access to public information.

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## 2017 BUDGET NOTES

The budget for City Council includes continuation of the annual maintenance of the automated legislation system and codifying services for the City Clerk's office. In addition, funding was included for four full-time staff to facilitate the newly created Division of Community Engagement.

<b>Department Financial Summary by Area of Expense</b>					
Fund	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Budget	2016 Projected	2017 Proposed
<b>General Fund</b>					
City Council					
Personnel	\$ 3,051,100	\$ 3,363,663	\$ 3,577,789	\$ 3,887,725	\$ 4,144,289
Materials & Supplies	15,249	16,046	28,500	23,500	28,500
Services	107,977	98,885	154,796	142,656	178,914
<b>General Fund Subtotal</b>	<b>3,174,326</b>	<b>3,478,594</b>	<b>3,761,085</b>	<b>4,053,881</b>	<b>4,351,703</b>
<b>Department Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,174,326</b>	<b>\$ 3,478,594</b>	<b>\$ 3,761,085</b>	<b>\$ 4,053,881</b>	<b>\$ 4,351,703</b>

<b>Department Personnel Summary</b>					
Fund	FT/PT	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Authorized	2017 Authorized
General Fund					
	FT	35	38	40	45
	<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>45</b>

<b>Operating Budget by Program</b>				
Program	2016 Budgeted	2016 FTEs	2017 Proposed	2017 FTEs
Administration	\$ 3,761,085	40	\$ 4,337,589	44
Internal Services	-	0	14,114	0
<b>Department Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,761,085</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>\$ 4,351,703</b>	<b>44</b>



# 2017 PROGRAM GUIDE

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## **ADMINISTRATION**

To approve all appropriations and laws for Columbus, and to provide a public forum for the discussion of issues by the citizenry.

## **INTERNAL SERVICES**

To account for the internal service charges of the department necessary to maintain operations.

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