



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.

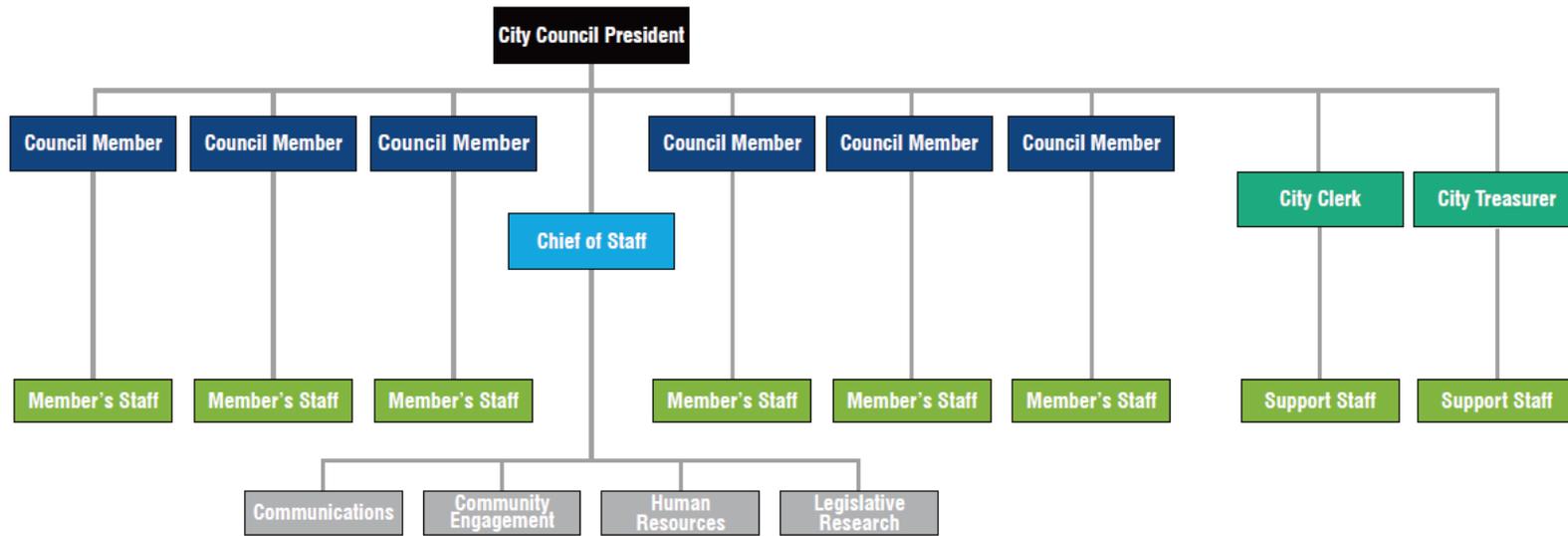
The Council works closely with the administrative (executive) branch of city government in the formation of policy impacting public safety, finance, economic development, and the delivery of core city services. City Council also initiates and facilitates ongoing cooperative efforts with other government 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, 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.

Department Mission

To provide high quality service to the residents of Columbus, ensuring accountable, transparent, and accessible operations. City Council's overarching goal is to develop policy and appropriate funds to support the welfare of Columbus residents.



Strategic Priorities For 2019

Partner with the administration to support opportunity neighborhoods through increased investment in infrastructure improvements, the elimination of vacant and abandoned buildings, and the development of affordable and inclusive housing.

Coordinate with the administration to implement the new incentive policy for the most effective application of economic development agreements and job growth incentives.

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

Promote initiatives and incentives that support well paying jobs, upward economic mobility, and equitable labor policies for working-class families, including funding for work programs.

Engage 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.

Explore mass transportation and land use strategies to prepare for the city's projected 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.

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

Promote Columbus as a destination for travel tourism and high-quality of life so as to attract and retain Columbus-based talent through continued investment in Experience Columbus and the Greater Columbus Arts Council.

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.

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.

2019 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.

Department Financial Summary by Area of Expense					
Fund	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Budget	2018 Projected	2019 Proposed
General Fund					
City Council					
Personnel	\$ 3,860,952	\$ 4,232,942	\$ 3,988,383	\$ 4,155,679	\$ 4,185,624
Materials & Supplies	44,179	24,494	28,000	26,000	28,000
Services	133,694	140,966	191,086	183,526	173,840
General Fund Subtotal	4,038,825	4,398,402	4,207,469	4,365,205	4,387,464
Department Total	\$ 4,038,825	\$ 4,398,402	\$ 4,207,469	\$ 4,365,205	\$ 4,387,464

Department Personnel Summary					
Fund	FT/PT	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Budgeted	2019 Proposed
General Fund					
	FT	43	43	40	41
	Total	43	43	40	41

Operating Budget by Program					
Program	2018 Budget	2018 FTEs	2019 Proposed	2019 FTEs	
Administration	\$ 4,190,883	40	\$ 4,371,568	41	
Internal Services	16,586	0	15,896	0	
Department Total	\$ 4,207,469	40	\$ 4,387,464	41	



2019 PROGRAM GUIDE

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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