



# 2013 City Council Calendar

**JANUARY**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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**FEBRUARY**

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**MARCH**

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**APRIL**

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**MAY**

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**JUNE**

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**JULY**

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**AUGUST**

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**SEPTEMBER**

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**OCTOBER**

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**NOVEMBER**

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**DECEMBER**

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City Council Meeting

02613-1112pd



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## City Council Duties

City Council is the nine-member legislative body for the City of Rochester. Five members are elected at-large to represent the entire city, while four are elected to represent the four Council districts: Northeast, Northwest, South, and East. All Councilmembers serve four-year terms. The five at-large representatives are elected at one time, and the four district representatives are elected two years later.

Under our Mayor-Council form of government, Rochester has a directly elected Mayor to administer the municipal government and a City Council to carry out the legislative function. The City Charter provides Council with the responsibility for the creation of broad policy goals for the City of Rochester. Frequently, these comprehensive goals, as well as specific pieces of legislation, are the result of suggestions made by city residents and/or business owners.

One of Council's main duties is the enactment of the City's annual budget. Council sets fiscal policies and approves all spending, whether for operations (e.g., trash removal) or capital items such as major equipment purchases, street repairs, or other public improvements.

The regulation of land use, including land use policy and the creation and amendment of zoning laws, is another significant Council responsibility.

In addition to these important duties, Council makes decisions regarding the following:

- Approving all city real estate transactions, including the purchase, sale, and lease of property;
- Issuing municipal notes and bonds;
- Confirming city department heads and volunteer members of city boards and commissions;
- Conducting an independent audit of the city's finances annually;
- Conducting investigations of all City departments when appropriate, with access to all records, and the power to compel testimony and issue subpoenas.

Councilmembers also respond annually to thousands of constituent requests, filling a crucial oversight role in the delivery of basic city services to the public.

## City Council Meetings

City Council's monthly meetings are generally held on Tuesday evenings (refer to reverse side for current schedule). The **Speak to Council** session, at which citizens can address Council on any issue, starts at 6:30 p.m., while the Council meeting begins at 7:30 p.m.

In order to **Speak to Council** about an issue on a particular Council meeting agenda, or a topic of general interest or concern, citizens must call **(585) 428-7421** before 5:30 p.m. on the day of the Council meeting.

After the public hearings are concluded, each committee presents to the entire Council the legislation it has previously considered, along with its recommendations. Council then votes on each individual piece of proposed legislation.



## City Council Committees

The Council President, chosen by the nine members of Council for a two-year term, assigns legislation to one of the Council's four standing committees. The primary function of these committees is to review all proposed legislation and to recommend adoption, consideration, or rejection by the entire Council, either as written or with amendments. Committees generally meet on the Thursday prior to each monthly council meeting. Call **(585) 428-7538** for specific meeting times and dates, or visit the City of Rochester website at [www.cityofrochester.gov](http://www.cityofrochester.gov).

### Art and Culture in the Center City

**E. Spaul** (Chair), **A. McFadden**, **J. Ortiz**

Committee charge: to review legislation within the inner loop geographic area, also known as Center City, that pertains specifically to new projects, programs or services in order to develop and encourage arts and culture within our downtown area.

### Finance

**C. Conklin** (Chair), **C. Palumbo**, **L. Scott**

Committee charge: to review legislation from the Office of Management and Budget, Department of Finance, and the Mayor's Office (Mayor, Communications, Office of Public Integrity, Law, Information Technology and the Bureau of Human Resource Management). This Committee will also review legislation from the Library.

### Jobs, Parks & Public Works

**L. Scott** (Chair), **M. Haag**, **E. Spaul**

Committee charge: to review legislation designed to increase the number of residents

After Council votes to adopt legislation, it is sent to the Mayor for signature. Enacted legislation is then filed with the City Clerk and printed in the annual "**Proceedings of the Council of the City of Rochester.**" Proceedings for 2000 through 2010, as well as the legislation for the past twelve months, are available online at [www.cityofrochester.gov](http://www.cityofrochester.gov).

All meetings of the Rochester City Council and its Committees are open to the public. They are held in **Council Chambers, Room 302A, in City Hall, 30 Church Street**, at the corner of North Fitzhugh Street. Committee and Council meetings are streamed on the City's website and broadcast (with closed captioning) on government access **Cable Channel 12**. Assistive devices for the hearing impaired are available. City Hall is handicapped accessible.

The City does not discriminate on the basis of handicap status in its programs, activities, or employment.

in the local workforce, and to review legislation from the Department of Environmental Services, including street and water projects, and legislation involving parks.

### Neighborhood & Business Development

**C. Palumbo** (Chair), **C. Conklin**, **J. Ortiz**

Committee charge: to review legislation from the Department of Neighborhood and Business Development, including legislation involving economic development, neighborhood, commercial and residential areas, legislation regarding the Neighborhood Service Centers, and legislation regarding environmental remediation.

### Public Safety, Youth & Recreation

**A. McFadden** (Chair), **M. Haag**, **L. Scott**

Committee charge: to review legislation from the Police, Fire, Emergency Communications, and Recreation and Youth Services Department.

*President and Vice President of Council are ex-officio members of all Committees.*