City Hall Room 301A • 30 Church Street • Rochester, New York 14614-1290 NEWS RELEASE – For Immediate Release: Tuesday, January 2, 2024

DISTRICT COUNCILMEMBERS SWORN IN, MELÉNDEZ, HARRIS ELECTED TO LEADERSHIP ROLES

The Rochester City Council held its biennial Organizational Meeting today, which saw the election of Council leadership and the swearing-in of four District Councilmembers.

Councilmembers Michael A. Patterson (Northeast), LaShay D. Harris (South), Mary Lupien (East) and Bridget Monroe (Northwest) were each sworn in for terms ending December 31, 2027. Miguel A. Meléndez, Jr. was reelected as City Council President, and LaShay D. Harris was elected Vice President.

Councilmembers Meléndez and Harris will serve in their leadership roles through December 31, 2025. President Meléndez has served on Council since 2020, and was first elected President of City Council in 2022. Councilmember Harris has served as the South District representative since 2019.

"I am honored that my colleagues have chosen me to lead City Council for another two years," President Meléndez said. "I am incredibly proud of what we accomplished in the previous session of Council, and I'm looking forward to a bright future for this body. I plan to continue my work advocating for and strengthening our City's neighborhoods and I hope that we will all rise to the occasion, collectively as a body, and work together to better the lives of the people of Rochester."

"I want to thank my colleagues for trusting me with this leadership role," Vice President Harris said. "In my time on Council, I have seen this body grow and mature as a force for good in the City of Rochester. I do not take this appointment lightly, and I promise to use my role to be a voice for all the people of the City of Rochester along with my constituents in the South District – particularly our most vulnerable residents whose voices all too often go unheard."

Hazel L. Washington was reappointed as City Clerk to a term ending December 31, 2025. Additionally, City Council adopted two procedural items which included the Rules of Council and designation of the Official Newspapers for the City.

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