



- (p. 1) President's Pen
- (p. 2) Council Meetings
- (p. 2) Council Priorities
- (p. 3) Police Reorganization
- (p. 4) Roofing Program
- (p. 4) Hydrofracking
- (p. 4) Ice Skating



Winter 2014

# The City Council Chronicle



**Loretta C. Scott,** Council President At-Large

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# Speak to Council

To sign up call:

(585) 428-7421

Speakers start at:

6:30 PM

All sessions are held immediately prior to Council Meetings



# From the President's pen:

Greetings from Loretta Scott

I am sending my warmest wishes to you and yours for a happy and healthy holiday season. Holidays are a time for gathering together with family and friends and also an opportunity to give back to others less fortunate in our community. We know that Rochester is a city that cares, and so many wonderful people work to make this community a better place. Many wonderful things are happening Rochester year round, and as a council we would love to learn about them. councilmembers we rely on you to help keep us informed about what is happening in your neighborhoods and community groups. The voices of citizens help inform us and shape our opinions, when we hear from you we are able to govern better, we are more able to respond to needs in the community, and we are able to advocate for the issues that are important to you. One way you

can reach out to us is to engage in our monthly "Speak to Council" session. City Council's monthly meetings are generally held on Tuesday evenings, however, on occasion meetings will fall on different days, please see Page 2 for the 2015 City Council Meeting Calendar. The Speak to Council session provides citizens three minutes (two minutes if more than 20 speakers sign up) to address the Council. Speakers are divided into two lists: the "A" list consisting of people who are speaking about legislation that is up for vote that evening, and the "B" list for any additional topics. We always look forward to hearing about your opinions on government, the innovative practices you are seeing in other communities, and how to make Rochester the best City it can be. We hope to hear from you, and I hope that you have a wonderful holiday season.

# 2015 Rochester City Council

# January 2015

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# May 2015

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# **July 2015**

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## September 2015

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### **April 2015**

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### June 2015

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### October 2015

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## December 2015

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# **Council Priorities**

As a Council we have identified 6 priorities that we focus on when reviewing legislation. These six priorities combined, create the framework for a successful City and government. The priorities are:

**Deficit Reduction and Long** Term Financial Stability

> Creating and Sustaining a **Culture of Vibrancy**

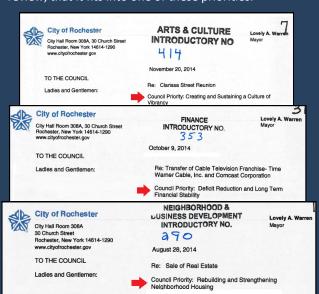
**Public Safety** 

Rebuilding and Strengthening **Neighborhood Housing** 

Jobs and Economic **Development** 

Support The Creation of **Effective Education Systems** 

We have worked with the Mayor's team to make sure that when they submit a piece of legislation for Council's review, that it fits into one of these priorities.



We will keep working hard to make sure that these are the priorities that guide legislation in Rochester.

# **Rochester Police Department Reorganization Plan**

The Rochester Police Department Reorganization Plan, will return Officers to a neighborhood beat structure and encourage community policing activities. The plan will replace the current two-division (East and West) patrol model with a five-section model that gives individual Officers smaller areas of responsibility, thus enabling them to spend more time engaging citizens.

# **Section Captains**

Clinton Section: Captain Wilson Johnson; Goodman Section: Captain Lloyd Cuyler Lake Section: Captain Raymond Dearcop; Central Section: Captain Peter Leach Genesee Section: Captain Tony McMullen

- The five-section model will include: Lake Section (Northwest); Genesee Section (Southwest); Goodman Section (Southeast); Clinton Section (Northeast); and Central Section (Downtown and some adjacent neighborhoods).
- The five sections will be organized into a total of 37 individual patrol beats (these are represented by the blue lines in each of the five maps), an increase from the current 22 Police Service Areas (sections broken down by color) in the current two-division structure. This constitutes an average reduction of about 40 percent in the size of individual patrol areas.
- RPD has constructed a staffing model that retains the same number of police officers
  assigned to patrol duties in the current two-division structure, and roughly an equivalent
  number of police officers assigned to patrol in each part of the City.
- Patrol beats and number of officers have been extensively evaluated utilizing data which took into account calls for service, types of crime, and a myriad of other factors to help determine officer deployment.
- The target date to commence operating under the new organizational structure is: Monday, March 30, 2015.

Learn more online, and check for updates: http://www.cityofrochester.gov/rpdreorganization/

If you were unable to attend the public meetings, and have any comments, questions or concerns please contact:

# **Lieutenant Mark Simmons**

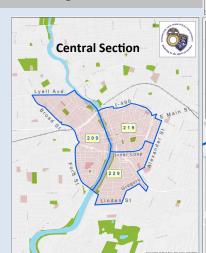
at (585) 428-7033 or rpdreorg@cityofrochester.gov

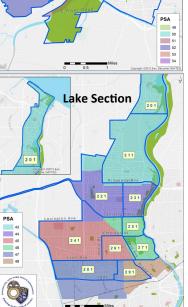
# **Police Body Cameras**



Members of City Council have been meeting with constituents for several months, facilitating conversations about Police Body Cameras. The Council favors the addition of these cameras, which have the support of citizens, the administration, and the police union. Council President Scott and Councilman Adam McFadden, Chair of Public Safety, Youth, and Recreation Committee recently joined others to announce that

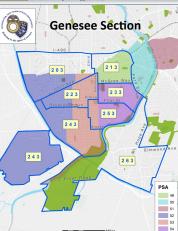
RPD will be acquiring body cameras, and that policies and procedures will start to develop in the upcoming months.











# You Spoke, We Listened.

City Council Passes Legislation for Roofing Program

At the December 2014 City Council Meeting, the City Council voted unanimously to provide funds for an Owner Occupied Roofing Program (OORP). This legislation was held until the Council could have a public forum on this topic. Council held the forum and the response was clear. Some people wanted to allocate money to each quadrant while others favored a City wide lottery. Residents expressed a desire to put an increased focus on supporting communities of concentrated poverty as well as the elderly. You spoke, we listened, and the legislation reflects those desires.

The program will launch this spring. For more information or questions on this program please contact: (585) 428-6912.



"We knew there was tremendous need for this program. But we needed to hear from people in neighborhoods about how it could best serve them."

- Carla Palumbo, Chair, Neighborhood, Business, Development Committee

# City's Moratorium On Hydrofracking

In June 2012, 2013, and 2014 the City Council unanimously passed resolutions that placed a moratorium on Hydrofracking within the City of Rochester. Initially Rochester was one of a small number of Cities to take an aggressive approach on deferring Hydrofracking until a full environmental impact study was available for review. While the materialization of Hydrofracking did not appear to immediately threaten our community, Council wished to learn more before making a decision. Over the past several years, New York State has been reviewing the impact of Hydrofracking, and recently Governor Andrew Cuomo implemented a full ban on Hydrofracking throughout New York State. This is a measure that is highly supported by our Council membership, and we were happy to be the local government leaders on this very important issue.

"Look at how many jobs in NYS require clean water. 1000's of jobs and many businesses are here because of access to high quality NYS water."

- Matt Haag Chair, Parks and Public Works Committee

# Public Meetings On Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds

Public Meetings are scheduled for CDBG Consolidated Plan. Come Share your voice.

### Southwest

Wednesday, January 14, 2015 9:30 AM Southwest Neighborhood Service Center 923 Genesee Street

### **Northeast**

Tuesday, January 20, 2015 10:00 AM Northeast Neighborhood Service Center 500 Norton Street

# Southeast

Tuesday, January 20, 2015 6:00 PM Ryan Community Center 530 Webster Avenue

# Northwest

Thursday, January 22, 2015 6:00 PM Edgerton Rec Center – Stardust Ballroom 41 Backus Street

# Double the Ice Double the Fun >>>

# Open Skate

Mon-Fri:

Noon-1:30P, 3:40 5:10P, 5:30-7:00P, 7:20-8:50P **Sat:** 

**Sat:** 1 -2∩D 1-

Noon-1:30P, 1:50-3:20P, 3:40-5:10P, 7:20-8:50P.

Sun:

Mon-Fri: 12:00-1:15P Sat: 5:00-6:15P

RINK

Sun: 2:30-

# **Genesee Valley Ice Arena**

Located at 131 Elmwood Avenue, this newly renovated ice is available to book your next skating party. Open until April 4, 2015. Call 428-7888 for more information.

# Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Ice Skating Rink

Located at 353 Court Street, the perfect place for the family. Available for rent through March 14, 2015 (weather permitting).

# **Indoor & Outdoor Skating Fees**

- Adults \$5
- Youth 17 & under \$2
- College Students w/ ID \$3
- Families \$14
- Season Pass for MLK \$60
- Season Pass for GVP \$125