



# The City Council Chronicle



Fall 2015



#### Seated

Matt Haag, At-Large | Carolee A. Conklin, At-Large  
Loretta C. Scott, President, At-Large;

Jacklyn Ortiz, At-Large | Dana K. Miller, VP, At-Large

#### Standing

Michael A. Patterson, Northeast | Elaine M. Spaul, East  
Carla M. Palumbo, Northwest | Adam C. McFadden, South

## City Council to Hold Input Forum on Certificate of Occupancy

The Administration would like to submit a waiver option to the C of O process to the Council for consideration and we are seeking your opinions.



**Thursday, November 19, 2015  
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
City Council Chambers,  
30 Church Street**

"One of the City Council's priorities is rebuilding and strengthening neighborhood housing and your input on topics like the "C of O is critical to this goal."

- Loretta C. Scott

## *From the President's pen:* *A note from Loretta Scott*

Dear Resident:

Our City and our Nation continue to experience gun violence, at unprecedented rates, and I worry that individuals are just accepting this violent culture as the "new normal." This cannot be the "new normal," this violence is abnormal, and this violence is unacceptable! As a community, we must find innovative solutions, ways to stop this pervasive violence.

Public Safety is one of Council's six priorities, and locally we have announced that we will be working with the court system to create a new Gun Crime Trial Part in the 7th Judicial District, this will mean that there will be a dedicated court to address gun violence. Along with Mayor Warren, I submitted legislation that partnered with Wegmans to provide a community Gun Buy-back event. At this event over 200 operable firearms were taken in, and over \$19,000 in Wegmans gift cards were exchanged. The majority of the firearms were handguns, as well as sawed-off shotguns and rifles, and one assault rifle. I thank everyone for their support and participation especially the Rochester Police Foundation and Wegmans.

As a community we deserve better, we must take back our streets, we deserve to feel safe. I know that there are leaders in our neighborhoods who are advocating against violence, and I want to know what innovative things you are doing.

My friend and colleague Councilman Adam McFadden has been hosting a reoccurring *Unity Night Bike Ride*. This event, which is advertised on our Facebook Page, partners with Westside Neighborhoods and the Conkey Cruisers, in an effort to bring awareness to Peace and the need to form a community. I encourage you to attend this event, and others like it that seek to end violence in our community, and to look at ways you too can make your neighborhood safer.

My Best,



# A Fond Farewell: Thanking Carla M. Palumbo



## Distinguished Service in Government:

<b>1996 - 1999</b>	Chair, Monroe County Legislature's Advisory Committee on Women's Issues
<b>2002 - 2007</b>	Monroe County Legislator, 28th Legislative District
<b>2006 - 2007</b>	County Legislature's Minority Leader, ranking member of Human Services Committee
<b>2008 - Present</b>	Rochester City Council, Northwest Representative
<b>2010 - Present</b>	Neighborhood and Business Development Committee, Chair

As she speaks about her service in government, Carla Palumbo lights up. She is animated, and is every bit the capable and dedicated servant the people of Rochester have seen for the last 14 years. "Everyone always wants to know, why I decided to run for office," said Councilmember Palumbo, "I went into public life as an extension of what I do professionally in my legal services work. I'm leaving this year feeling like I accomplished what I needed to, and leaving our City in a better place."

Carla M. Palumbo has served on the Rochester City Council as the Northwest Representative and she Chairs the Neighborhood and Business Development Committee, a committee and a department she feels are essential to the underpinnings of the City. "NBD's job is to bring economic development, citywide while at the same time focusing on neighborhood development. There are always many voices to listen to, and tough decisions to be made," Councilmember Palumbo acknowledged, "their goal is to create a city rich in culture with a stable foundation, but also to listen to the voices of those in the neighborhoods."

It is important that NBD balance sometimes competing interests in order to accomplish its goals and engage the community to find that balance.

Councilmember Palumbo understands that neighborhood voices matter, and development is key to strengthening and rebuilding our City. That's why she worked closely with the Administration to promote the redevelopment of Eastman Business Park, and why she has been a consistent voice calling for neighborhood inclusion on projects ranging from the Port/Marina Development to the development of the JOSANA Plan, the redesign of the East Ave. Wegmans, and to the creation of Collegetown. "The most important thing a government official can do is listen to the community and know what people are saying."

Councilmember Palumbo has a rich history as a public servant; she entered into public life in 2002 when she was elected to represent the 28th District of Northwest Rochester in the Monroe County Legislature. There she was elected to minority leader of the Democratic caucus, by her colleagues.

Carla has always had a passion for serving the under-represented, which she exemplifies in her post as the head of the Legal Aid Society of Rochester, where she currently serves as President and CEO. Councilmember Palumbo lives by the philosophy, "we need to provide the voice for those who are silenced in our community; we need to make sure all

people are represented and have access to justice." She has dedicated a large part of her professional career to supporting and providing aid and resources to victims of domestic violence, and she has advocated for many years on issues of gender equality, animal rights, and homelessness prevention.

These issues spark her passion, as she talks about the two pieces of legislation that she has put forth in her final months on Council. One piece will provide \$50,000 in funding for a temporary homeless shelter run by Rochester Emergency Action Committee for the Homeless (REACH). The other piece will provide nuisance points exemptions for victims of domestic violence. "The legislation will ensure that victims of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking and sexual abuse are not penalized after reporting crimes, and I want to make sure that these protections are in place before I leave the Council."

Councilmember Palumbo smiles talking about Molly Clifford, Councilmember Elect who will fill the seat she is vacating, "I will miss the interactions with my colleagues on Council and in the community – but I am very confident that Molly Clifford will be a phenomenal replacement. I think the Northwest and the City of Rochester will be very well served by Molly. She knows city government, she knows how to get things done. She has already proved she gets it."

Councilmember Palumbo looks forward to continuing to work in the community and thanks the citizens of Rochester for their support, and for allowing her the honor of representing them in the Monroe County Legislature and on the City Council.





# UNCF College Fair Returns to Rochester

Councilmember Adam McFadden had a goal to bring back a college fair that focused on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU), similar to an event he attended that led him to college, and changed his life. Last school year he achieved that goal and vowed to make it an annual event in Rochester. This November, the United



Pictured: Councilmember McFadden, School Board President White, and Mayor Warren with student participants in the background.

Negro College Fund (UNCF) College Fair took place in conjunction with the Empower Me Tour came back to Rochester for the second time, attracting more than 700 students to Downtown Rochester. This event was held in partnership with the Rochester City School District, Monroe Community College and the Rochester HBCU College Fair Committee. The UNCF Empower Me Tour provided young people the opportunity for on-site admissions, as well as on-site scholarship awards. The

event was hugely successful, 59 high school seniors were accepted into colleges and \$1.5 million in scholarships were awarded. "This event has been awe-inspiring," said Councilmember McFadden, "the young people of this City are inspirational, and I am so proud of all those who received admittance to college and scholarships."



Pictured: Mistress of Ceremonies Jamiese Price; Councilmember Adam McFadden; David Walker, UNCF; Rev. Dr. Weldon G. Thomas, Mayor Lovely A. Warren, and Keynote Speaker Dr. Roslyn Clark Artis

## Institutions Admitting Students

### Bethune-Cookman University

Daytona Beach, Florida

### Wiley College

Marshall, Texas

### Miles College

Fairfield, Alabama

### Johnson C. Smith University

Charlotte, North Carolina

### Dillard University

New Orleans, Louisiana

### Florida Memorial University

Miami Gardens, Florida

## Patterson's Legislation to Address Problem Properties Passes Unanimously

Like many, Councilmember Mike Patterson was frustrated with the recent violent outbreaks in our City and wanted to find a way to make a meaningful change and make it quickly. "Government isn't glamorous, sometimes you have to get into the weeds of policy to make the change you want to see," said Councilmember Patterson. The community was demanding a response to address problem properties. The way the law was written stated that property owners *cannot* be notified of nuisance points that have been issued to their property by mail, instead they must be *served* the notification. "I thought that was outrageous," Patterson went on to say, "that meant in order for the City to take action on a property that was known to cause problems and had already

accumulated nuisance points, we had to find the owner and formally serve them, and when they are an absentee landlord, forget it, it could add months to the process." Councilman Patterson, with unanimous support from his colleagues on City Council, passed an amendment that would allow for *certified mail* to be sent to the owner of the problem property to serve as formal notification. This amendment allows for a more effective, efficient and timely means of notification, likely resulting in quicker corrective action(s) by the property owner.



Councilmember Patterson at a community meeting.



**Your **OPINION** Matters**

Mayor Lovely A. Warren and the Rochester City Council invite you to participate in a community input session on the Rochester Police Department's Body Worn Camera Program.

**Sessions will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in each Patrol Section:**

- Thursday, Nov. 12 - City Hall Atrium, 30 Church St. (Central Section)
- Monday, Nov. 16 - Thomas P. Ryan R-Center, 530 Webster Ave. (Goodman Section)
- Monday, Nov. 23 - Edgerton R-Center, 41 Backus St. (Lake Section)
- Monday, Nov. 30 - Danforth Community Center, 200 West Ave. (Genesee Section)
- Thursday, Dec. 3 - David F. Ganitt R-Center, 700 North St. (Clinton Section)

**Believe.**

City of Rochester, NY  
Lovely A. Warren, Mayor  
Rochester City Council

# Sister Cities of Rochester Reception

The International Sister Cities of Rochester (ISCOR) is an engaged group of Rochester citizens who have formed partnerships with other municipalities all over the world. ISCOR was first established in Rochester in

## Rochester's Sister Cities

Rennes, France  
Würzburg, Germany  
Caltanissetta, Italy  
Rehovot, Israel  
Kraków, Poland  
Bamako, Mali  
Waterford, Ireland  
Novgorod, Russia  
Hamamatsu, Japan  
Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic  
Xianyang, China

1958 with the partnership of our first Sister City, Rennes, France. Sister Cities is a global program that links cities all over the world. Municipal governments enter into formal partnerships with the intent to learn from each other, to have a cultural exchange, and build friendship among nations. Since 1958



Official Novgorod Russia Delegation, headed by Councilmember Carolee A. Conklin planting memorial lilac Tree

ISCOR has grown tremendously and proudly partners with 13 Cities globally. This year ISCOR celebrates three landmark anniversaries: 25 years with Novgorod, Russia; 40 years with Bamako, Mali, and 50 years with Caltanissetta, Italy. This year the City of Rochester has two official delegations travel to visit our Sister Cities in Russia and in Israel, in addition, our City hosted delegations from Italy, Israel and Russia. In celebration of these events, and in recognition of this wonderful program, Councilmember Carolee A. Conklin, who also serves as President of ISCOR hosted the public to learn more, and experience a look at the world through ISCOR at an Annual Reception.

\* Official Sister Cities Trips are funded individually or by grants and do not occur at tax payer expense.

## Office of the City Clerk Honored with Statewide Award

The City received an award for Excellence in Local Government Archival Program Development. The award acknowledged two grants, the digitization and preservation of the Proceedings of the Trustees of Rochesterville and Common Council Proceedings (1817-1900) and Christine Ridarsky's (City Historian) Heritage Trail grant. The Historical Council Proceedings from 1817-1900 are available online:

<http://bit.ly/1GxIXPL>

City Staff receiving Excellence Award



## Upcoming Council Meetings

### November 2015

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

### December 2015

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

### January 2016

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Do you want to:

## Speak to Council

To sign up call:

(585) 428-7421

Speakers start at:

6:30 PM

Speak to Council is held immediately prior to Council Meetings and to speak you must sign up by 5:30 PM on the meeting day.



Denotes a City Council Meeting