



The City Council Chronicle



2016 Issue 3



Seated

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

Standing

Matt Haag, At-Large | Jacklyn Ortiz, At-Large
Loretta C. Scott, President, At-Large;

Carolee A. Conklin, At-Large | Dana K. Miller, VP, At-Large

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

I want to advance our conversation about violence, the Black community, and law enforcement. Police community relations have become very fragile in Rochester and indeed around the country. Recent high profile incidents of police involved shootings of Black males have stoked the embers of anger, discontentment and sentiments of mistreatment within the Black community. In the age of smart phones and social media even less dramatic incidents add to the impression that our system of law enforcement is out of control relating to the Black community.



The recently released video of a Rochester Police Officer's arrest of a woman during an open air drug market enforcement action is a prime example. It's clear that body cameras, blue light cameras, and bystander videos do not definitively tell the full story of these encounters. Incidents may be viewed through a lens of citizen suspicion based upon their opinions of prior police actions. The videos and tweets will not adequately convey the extent to which a neighborhood has cried out for relief against oppressive, disruptive open air drug markets that turn neighbors into hostages in their own homes, nor will those images fully convey whether the police officers' use of force was reasonable or excessive. It will depend upon the lens of the viewer.

Thus, the need to build trust and strengthen police community relations has never been greater. I surmise that a similar level of intensity might have inspired British Home Secretary Sir Robert Peel to issue the *Nine Principles of Policing* in 1829. Many of those principles are extremely timely today.

- Recognizing that police are dependent on public approval for their existence, and in order to be able to create and sustain security they must maintain public respect.
- Increasing the public's desire to cooperate with the police reduces the need to use physical force to achieve police objectives.

Sir Peel expounded on these rules of law and the role of policing but also spoke forcefully about the importance of community and the need for the people to do their part. That is vitally important today. I believe that the police and the citizens have a shared goal -- to live in a community that is safe for the residents to enjoy and safe for police officers to serve and protect.

We must enrich our police/community interactions by extending mutual respect and being more willing to learn about everyone's respective strengths and challenges. We must utilize our existing dispute resolution and mediation tools more extensively and effectively and make the Civilian Review Board a strong highly regarded resource. Let us bring groups of people together and find ways to unite our community. We need to find ways to share empathy and understanding, we must find solutions and we must find them together because there is more that unites us than divides us.

Community Advocate

The Center for Dispute Settlement has a **Community Advocate** who focuses on Police and Community Relations, they help assist you throughout the police complaint process. The CA is available to:

- help when initiating a complaint
- accompany a complainant during their sworn statement
- act as a point of contact throughout the investigation to provide updates
- serve as a liaison between you and the investigating sergeant
- provide oversight of the complaint investigation process to ensure that each complaint is fairly, thoroughly and timely investigated.

CONTACT YOUR COMMUNITY ADVOCATE

Cheryl Hayward | Frank Liberti
chayward@cadsadr.org | fliberti@cadsadr.org
(585) 546-5110 x117 | (585) 546-5110 x106

Councilmembers Conklin & Haag Offer New Guidelines for Boards and Commissions

It has long been the belief of this Council that we need to find ways to incorporate new voices into the planning, land-use, and quality processes used in our City. Rochester has numerous Boards and Commissions that are comprised of citizen volunteers who devote their time and talent to help the City. We are incredibly

appreciative of the work that they do on behalf of the citizens of Rochester, and we want to increase the opportunities for individuals to give back to the City. This has been an approach that we have looked at for sometime. Last year we began to include alternate positions on several Boards, to bring in new people voices,

allow for individuals with conflicts to recuse themselves, and to build up institutional knowledge when new positions occur on the Board. Councilmembers Carolee Conklin and Matt Haag, have been leading the efforts on creating new changes for several of the Boards and Commissions, and have sponsored 4 changes.

(1) Term Limits

To promote community involvement we are implementing a maximum of 3 consecutive terms on a single Board or Commission.

(2) Minimum Attendance Requirement

It is recommended that members be required to have a *minimum* 50% attendance rate prior to being considered for reappointment.

(3) Increased Marketing and Promotion

To increase the visibility and knowledge of City Boards and Commissions, the City should take an active role in promoting and marketing available positions where possible.

(4) Meeting Time Revision

We recommend a review of all meeting times for Boards and Commissions to ensure they are appropriate for Board members and the community members attending the meetings.



Join a Board or Commission

If you have interest in joining a Board or Commission please drop off or send a letter and resumé to the City Council Office at 30 Church Street, Room 301-A in Rochester, NY 14614. You may also email a copy of your resumé to Council@CityofRochester.gov. As positions become available we will look to fill vacancies for both alternative and member positions.

City Boards and Commissions Include:

- Zoning Board of Appeals
- City Planning Commission
- Rochester Preservation Board
- Rochester Environmental Commission
- Board of Ethics
- Board of Assessment Review

For a more complete list and information go to: www.cityofrochester.gov/boardsandcommissions

Councilmember Patterson Provides Updates on Public Market

Indoor vendors at the Public Market have been moved into a temporarily enclosed new shed (located between the main shed and the "Commission Row" that houses coffee shops, cafes, etc.) Indoor vendors will be housed in this shed while the indoor shed is replaced. This will likely be early summer 2017. "The Public Market is a gem in the Northeast part of our City, it is a hub of energy, excitement and movement. We know that folks come from all over the region to the Public Market, and we want to continue to

make it a welcoming place for all. We are undertaking some much needed renovations to keep the quality that we have all come to expect out of our country's finest Public Market," said Councilmember Patterson. When the vendors move back to the new indoor when the temporarily enclosure will be removed. Look for your favorite

indoor shed vendors in the newly enclosed shed starting on Saturday, October 1, and enjoy the market.



NW Councilmember Clifford Works with Neighbors on Road Safety

Northwest Councilmember Molly Clifford, the Rochester Police Department and other City Officials joined members of the Edgerton Neighborhood Association to walk Lake Avenue and talk to neighbors and businesses about pedestrian safety. The walk was scheduled after the tragic fatality that took place on Lake Avenue in late August. "Unfortunately,

Tips for Pedestrian Safety

- ◆ Cross at intersections and within crosswalks
- ◆ Wear bright or reflective clothing at night
- ◆ Avoid using cellphones and headphones while walking
- ◆ Stay on sidewalks

we continue to see a high number of accidents on Lake Avenue, particularly the area from Lake Tower north to Emerson Street," said Councilmember Clifford. "There are a number of people working to improve signage, crosswalks and other environmental factors, but pedestrian and driver education are also critical to improving safety. There is not one solution to this problem. We need to work every angle." Lake Ave. has had a number of pedestrian related accidents in recent years. Representatives of the Lake Avenue Baptist Church, who work with refugees in the area, were on hand to



help address any language barriers. "It's important to let neighbors know the best ways to protect themselves, and to make sure they are having these conversations with their children. I'm appreciative of all those who came out to support in this critical public safety effort," Clifford said.

Vice President Miller Advocates for Street Liaisons

Vice President Miller championed a program back in 2006 to place street managers in our neighborhoods to help spur economic development. The Street Manager Program has proved to be a wonderful asset to our neighborhoods and the business community. The individuals who serve as Street Managers are dedicated and



hardworking, and we all know that their job is not easy. This program has been recently revamped to provide Street Liaisons as resources for each quadrant. This expansion will allow the reach of this program to touch more neighborhoods. With this expansion we want to know how these positions can better serve residents. "I am working with the Department of Neighborhood and Business Development to solicit community feedback on the street liaison positions," said Vice President Miller, "we know that our neighbors want increased quality of life, economic development and cultural opportunities that create vibrancy in our neighborhoods. We want to know how liaisons can help achieve those goals. But we also know that the folks living and working in these neighborhoods

understand the needs of the community best, and we want to know what their ideas are and how we can better help achieve them." Stay tuned for information on public meetings, because it is important that we hear from all neighborhood stakeholders, residents, businesses and property owners alike. If you have any questions, would like more information, or would like to offer any suggestions on this important program please contact my office to share them.

If you have comments on Street Liaisons contact Vice President Miller:

Email:

Dana.Miller@CityofRochester.gov

Phone:

(585) 428-7538

Spaull: What's Old is New Again in the East District



The East District is an exciting place to be right now, as the title says, what's old is new. What this refers to is the reinvention of old buildings in the district into new and entirely different uses. Local developers in the East District have done a spectacular job rehabbing old buildings and enhancing neighborhood landscapes. We have seen an explosion of apartment housing, life style retail, and specialty shops, a brewery and so much more. Councilmember Elaine

Spaull has been a strong advocate for working with developers, entrepreneurs, and small business owners to help make their visions become a reality. "Three projects that I think have done an amazing job revamping these old buildings are the Culver Road Armory which has transformed the old Armory building and continues to expand adding new and interesting retail space; and not that far away the Button Lofts on Monroe Ave. have turned an eyesore building into a wonderful living space in the heart of the busy Monroe Ave. corridor, and the activity of Russell and Elton Streets is astounding, they have turned a factory into wonderful space for retail and restaurants," said

Councilmember Spaull of the East District. "These three projects are great examples of local entrepreneurs who are honoring old buildings in our City and using them to bring new energy." Rochester has a rich history of wonderful infrastructure, and it is wonderful to see projects like these that embrace the history and our City and region.



One Year of Unity Rides in Rochester



Councilmember Adam McFadden started the Unity Bike Ride last year to bring peace and positive activity to our streets. The ride responds to the mass shooting at the Boys and Girls Club. "I wanted to do something positive in response, and I am happy to see that this bike ride continues weekly, and I'm proud that the community is continuing

this effort with me. Each week the ride has gained more participants, and all are welcome to join the effort to stop the violence in our City and bring much needed peace to our streets. The bike rides are held on Thursday nights at 7:00 PM and start on the corner of Genesee Street and West Main Street," said Councilmember McFadden.

Upcoming Council Meetings

2016 OCTOBER						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	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					

2016 NOVEMBER						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	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			

2016 DECEMBER						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	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.

■ Committee Meeting/Public Hearing ■ Council Meeting