

CHICAGO CITY COUNCIL



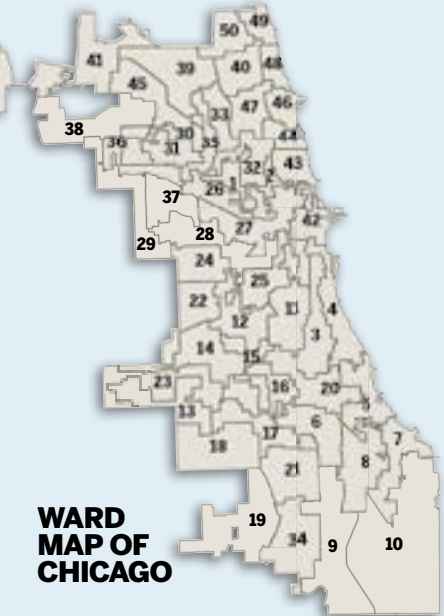
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MEET THE NEW CITY COUNCIL, which moves further to the left and welcomes more people of color. Latinos hold 12 seats, more than ever before, but still short of their share of the city's population. White and black aldermen each hold 19 seats. That's the smallest number of white aldermen since the current ward system was enacted in 1923, but it's still greater than the percentage of white people in Chicago. The biggest Council gains were political. Six democratic socialists now hold seats, a six-fold increase since 2015 and more socialists than the Council has seen in more than a century. The Council includes 14 new aldermen. Women hold 15 seats, three more than 2015, but short of the record 18 in 2007. The aldermen are shown in order of ward, not seating arrangement.

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LORI LIGHTFOOT, MAYOR OF CHICAGO
Born: Aug. 4, 1962
Rocketed from long-shot underdog in the crowded mayoral field to overwhelming frontrunner. The former prosecutor and head of the Chicago Police Board won 17% of the vote in the 14-candidate first round in February, and then went on to trounce Toni Preckwinkle in April, winning all but 20 of the city's 2,069 precincts. Chicago's first black woman and first openly gay mayor.



WARD MAP OF CHICAGO



14TH WARD EDWARD M. BURKE
Born: Dec. 29, 1943
Joined Council: 1969
Council's longest serving alderman lost reins of Finance Committee — and front-row Council seat — thanks to federal charges of attempted extortion for allegedly trying to use Council position to win private law business. Still beat two challengers. Married to state Supreme Court Justice Anne Burke.



15TH WARD RAY LOPEZ
Born: May 26, 1978
Joined Council: 2015
Fended off repeat challenger Rafael "Rafa" Yanez for a second term. Left Latino Caucus shortly after being re-elected due to a verbal sparring match with 35th Ward Ald. Carlos Ramirez-Rosa, who opposed Lopez's re-election. A member of LGBT caucus and former Southwest Airlines skipcap.



16TH WARD STEPHANIE COLEMAN
Born: April 13, 1987
Joined Council: 2019
Reclaimed seat once held by her mother, beating Toni Preckwinkle in April after failed campaign. Supports her mother's bid for reelection. Supports legal weed and a Chicago casino. Democratic Ward committeeman and daughter of former Ald. Shirley Coleman, who lost the seat in 2007.



17TH WARD DAVID MOORE
Born: Feb. 21, 1966
Joined Council: 2015
Wanted to make businesses allow people to use their public restrooms without making a purchase, but ultimately backed off. Supports Chicago casino and legalizing marijuana, a real estate transfer tax and video gambling before raising property or sales taxes. Democratic ward committeeman.



18TH WARD DERRICK G. CURTIS
Born: June 3, 1968
Joined Council: 2015
Won second term in February by clobbering challenger Chuks Onyezia, more than two-to-one. Supports exploring a Chicago casino, legalizing marijuana, a real estate transfer tax and video gambling before raising property or sales taxes. Democratic ward committeeman.



19TH WARD MATTHEW J. O'SHEA
Born: Aug. 26, 1969
Joined Council: 2011
Tapped by Emanuel to head Aviation Committee. Provided key support to Lori Lightfoot after she won spot in runoff. Carved role as Council champion for domestic violence victims. Supports Chicago casino, legal weed, video gaming and real estate transfer tax for \$1 million-plus properties.



20TH WARD JEANETTE B. TAYLOR
Born: May 15, 1975
Joined Council: 2019
Community activist known for her role in the Dyett School hunger strike. One of six democratic socialists on Council, she won seat after disgraced former Ald. Willie Cochran pleaded guilty to seeking bribes from businessmen and dipping into a charitable fund for personal use.



21ST WARD HOWARD BROOKINS JR.
Born: Oct. 21, 1963
Joined Council: 2003
An Emanuel supporter who served on the school closings commission that resulted in the closure of 50 schools. Lightfoot's pick to replace veteran Ald. Anthony Beale for transportation chairman in her tentative Council shake-up.



22ND WARD MICHAEL D. RODRIGUEZ
Born: Aug. 31, 1978
Joined Council: 2019
Dem ward committeeman and executive vice chair of the county Democratic Party who replaces Ald. Ricardo Munoz. Rivals dubbed him Munoz's "hand-picked successor" after Munoz was tainted by domestic violence allegations, but he still won easily in February. Supports legal weed, exploring LaSalle St. and commuter taxes.



23RD WARD SILVANA TABARES
Born: Jan. 7, 1979
Joined Council: 2018
Spent five years in Illinois House before being appointed to the Council to replace retiring Ald. Mike Zaleski. A staunch Mike Madigan ally and Democratic state central committeewoman, she easily defeated her opponent in February to secure her first full term.



24TH WARD MICHAEL SCOTT JR.
Born: Dec. 24, 1975
Joined Council: 2015
Beat three rivals in February to secure second term, after winning seat in 2015 in race that started with 10 candidates. Focused on affordable housing and redevelopment, won library renovations and new boxing ring for Franklin Park. Former Chicago Park District official.



25TH WARD BYRON SIGCHO-LOPEZ
Born: July 7, 1983
Joined Council: 2019
One of six democratic socialists on Council. A community organizer who ran Pilsen Alliance, which advocates for affordable housing, schools and social justice. Supports La Salle Street, commuter and legalized marijuana taxes. Was backed by Chicago Teachers Union. Replaces disgraced Ald. Danny Solis.



26TH WARD ROBERTO MALDONADO
Born: Aug. 28, 1951
Joined Council: 2009
Narrowly escaped being forced into runoff, winning February majority by half a percentage point. A former Cook County commissioner, supports Chicago casino that's sensitive to the needs of the community and video gambling, but not legalized weed at this time.



27TH WARD WALTER BURNETT JR.
Born: Aug. 16, 1963
Joined Council: 1995
The third longest serving alderman. Pushed stepson to succeed City Treasurer Melissa Coneyears-Ervin in Illinois House. Sponsored ordinance to preserve single-room occupancy housing. Is open to Chicago casino, commuter tax and legalized and taxed marijuana, but undecided on La Salle Street tax.



28TH WARD JASON C. ERVIN
Born: May 7, 1974
Joined Council: 2011
Sponsored ordinance that would have required equipping all sworn Chicago police officers with Tasers and releasing videos of police-involved shootings within 14 days. Pushed for crackdowns on prostitution, public drinking, gambling and urinating on the public way. His wife, Melissa Coneyears-Ervin, was elected city treasurer.



29TH WARD CHRIS TALIAFERRO
Born: Dec. 9, 1965
Joined Council: 2015
Former Chicago Police officer, pushed senior and nursing home "safety zones" that enhanced fines and jail time for possession of an assault weapon and other gun-related offenses near nursing homes and other senior housing. Won second term by shutting out two challengers in February.



30TH WARD ARIEL REBOYRAS
Born: Aug. 7, 1953
Joined Council: 2003
Defeated Jessica Gutierrez, daughter of ex-U.S. Rep. Luis Guterrez in contentious runoff. Countered her "fresh voice" message by saying her father was trying to "buy" her a Council seat. Was chairman of Public Safety Committee. Was loyal to former mayor, Emanuel and Richard M. Daley.



31ST WARD FELIX CARDONA JR.
Born: Dec. 10, 1974
Joined Council: 2019
Ousted freshman Ald. Milly Santiago in April runoff. Ally of former Cook County Assessor Joe Berrios, worked in assessor's office. Supports Chicago casino, legalized and taxed marijuana and video gambling in Chicago if revenue is used to fund city pensions.



32ND WARD SCOTT WAGUESPACK
Born: June 23, 1970
Joined Council: 2007
Chairman of the Progressive Caucus and Lori Lightfoot's pick to head coveted Finance Committee, a reward for endorsing Lightfoot that is at odds with plan senior aldermen proposed. An outspoken critic of Emanuel. One of five aldermen who ran unopposed.



33RD WARD ROSSANA RODRIGUEZ SANCHEZ
Born: Nov. 13, 1978
Joined Council: 2019
Born in Puerto Rico, Columbia College adviser ended 44-year Mell dynasty by beating incumbent Deb Mell by just 13 votes in April runoff. One of six democratic socialists in the Council, is member of 33rd Ward Working Families organization created during 2015 race to oust Mell.



34TH WARD CARRIE AUSTIN
Born: May 15, 1949
Joined Council: 1994
Big loser in proposed Council shake-up. Ousted veteran backed Toni Preckwinkle for mayor, but then vowed loyalty to Lightfoot in bid to remain Budget Committee chairman. Unimpressed, Lightfoot wants her on new equity issues panel instead. No. 2 in Council seniority. Hired her son as ward superintendent.



35TH WARD CARLOS RAMIREZ-ROSA
Born: Feb. 18, 1989
Joined Council: 2015
City's youngest alderman, he's dean of Council's democratic socialists. Backed Preckwinkle over Lightfoot. Has sparred with fellow aldermen, joining failed Twitter campaign to oust Ald. Ray Lopez. Was called "a pile of s---" by Ald. Nick Spasato during dispute over their opposing mayoral endorsements.



36TH WARD GILBERT VILLEGAS
Born: Oct. 26, 1970
Joined Council: 2015
A winner under Lightfoot's Council plan. She tapped the Hispanic Caucus chairman to serve as her floor leader and chair of the Economic Development Committee. But that means he now must deliver the votes. Wants more Latinos in city jobs, saying Emanuel was "deaf on the issue."



37TH WARD EMMA MITTS
Born: June 12, 1955
Joined Council: 2000
Staunch supporter of new police and fire academy in West Garfield Park, which is part of her ward. Proposed, then pulled, an ordinance loosening liquor restrictions at strip clubs. Apologized for anti-gay remark caught on video during 2015 campaign.



38TH WARD NICHOLAS SPOSATO
Born: Oct. 7, 1958
Joined Council: 2011
One of Council's most conservative members, left Progressive Caucus in part over clashes on social issues. Contributed to defense fund of Officer Robert Rialmo, who shot and killed Quintonio LeGrier and neighbor Lettie Jones. A retired firefighter who suffers from multiple sclerosis, he uses a wheelchair.



39TH WARD SAMANTHA NUGENT
Born: April 27, 1977
Joined Council: 2019
Defeated Robert Murphy in April runoff to replace longtime Ald. Margaret Laurino. Former chief of staff for Cook County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, most recent job was at health care non-profit. Supports a Chicago casino, legal pot, sports betting and video gambling.



40TH WARD ANDRE VASQUEZ
Born: May 21, 1979
Joined Council: 2019
Community activist and former battle rapper ousted Emanuel's floor leader, Ald. Pat O'Connor, whose Council tenure put him just behind Burke. A democratic socialist and AT&T account manager, he apologized for homophobic remarks made years ago.



41ST WARD ANTHONY V. NAPOLITANO
Born: March 29, 1975
Joined Council: 2015
A former Chicago cop turned firefighter who lost the support of unions, such as the Service Employees International Union, that supported him four years ago. Half of the "conservative voting bloc" along with Ald. Nick Spasato. Stood with Spasato as the Chicago Firefighters Union endorsed Lightfoot.



42ND WARD BRENDAN REILLY
Born: Dec. 26, 1971
Joined Council: 2007
Endorsed Lightfoot and raised money for her campaign. Muffled sounds of street music in his downtown ward with ordinance that limited time and locations of performers. Also proposed or supported crackdowns on drag racing on Lower Wacker, party buses downtown, cyclists on the Riverwalk and more.



43RD WARD MICHELE SMITH
Born: Feb. 12, 1955
Joined Council: 2011
Secured another term in April runoff by touting independence and ethics reform efforts. Sponsored ordinance that would empower city Inspector General Joe Ferguson to investigate aldermen and their employees. Voted against massive Lincoln Yards development neighboring her ward.



44TH WARD TOM TUNNEY
Born: Aug. 22, 1955
Joined Council: 2002
Council veteran was fellow aldermen's choice to hold reins of Finance Committee, but Lightfoot wants him to head Zoning instead. The city's first openly gay alderman. Styles himself as peacemaker between the Cubs' owners and Wrigleyville residents — but is increasingly at odds with Ricketts family.



45TH WARD JIM GARDINER
Born: April 17, 1976
Joined Council: 2019
Ousted Ald. John Arena in February. A Chicago firefighter/EMT and CPS teacher at Taft and Schurz high schools and 7th and 8th grade basketball coach. Supports elected school board and moratorium on charter schools. OK with Chicago casino, video gambling and legal marijuana if money goes to pensions.



46TH WARD JAMES CAPPLEMAN
Born: Oct. 26, 1952
Joined Council: 2011
Squeezed past challenger Marianne Lalonde by just 25 votes in April runoff. Was interim chair of the Zoning Committee after disgraced Ald. Danny Solis stepped down. Tried to delay the vote on Lincoln Yards and demanded more units of affordable housing for the project.



47TH WARD MATT MARTIN
Born: March 5, 1984
Joined Council: 2019
Civil rights lawyer who worked for former Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan. Defeated former Emanuel policy chief Michael Negron in April runoff. Succeeds former Ald. Armea Pawar, who limited himself to two terms and lost his bid to become city treasurer.



48TH WARD HARRY OSTERMAN
Born: April 16, 1967
Joined Council: 2011
A former state rep and community activist with a focus on public safety issues. His name was recently linked to a decades-old hiring scandal from his days as Streets and San personnel director, but he defended his tenure and says he was never accused of wrongdoing.



49TH WARD MARIA HADDEN
Born: Jan. 20, 1981
Joined Council: 2019
Ousted longtime Ald. Joe Moore in February. A member of the LGBT community and a member of Network 49, the ward's independent progressive political organization, Hadden supports a LaSalle Street tax, a real estate transfer tax and legalizing and taxing recreational marijuana.



50TH WARD DEBRA SILVERSTEIN
Born: Oct. 4, 1965
Joined Council: 2011
A former small-business owner and Emanuel ally who has advocated for residents upset about noise from O'Hare Airport and better constituent services for her ward. Wife of former state Sen. Ira Silverstein.

To find — and contact — your alderman, go to chicago.gov/city/en/about/wards.html