

## City Council Application

First Name	James
Last Name	Williams
Phone Number	
Email Address	
Street Address	
Place of Employment	Professional Student
Position	Legal Technology
Length of residence in Cleveland Heights	25 years
Are you a registered Cleveland Heights voter?	Yes
What do you think would be your role as a member of City Council? What are your priorities for our community and are there areas in which you believe the City needs improvement? How would your service on City Council help achieve those goals and improve the City?	As a candidate for Cleveland Heights City Council, I am committed to serving our community with integrity, transparency, and a focus on the needs of all residents. I bring a diverse background in education, arts, and community engagement, along with a strong desire to improve our city's governance and quality of life.
 <b>How I Will Interact with City Departments:</b>  Finance and Budget Department: I will work closely with the department to ensure responsible fiscal management, advocating for equitable wages for essential workers and transparent budgeting processes. Housing and Community Development: I will collaborate to promote fair housing practices, prevent discrimination, and support affordable housing initiatives.	

Public Safety and Health: I will engage with police, fire, and health departments to ensure the safety and well-being of our residents.

Parks and Recreation: I will support programs that enhance community engagement and quality of life.

Legal and Policy Departments: I will consult on legal matters, ensure policies protect civil rights, and promote fairness and equity across all city programs

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**What special qualities, abilities, skills, insights or perspectives do you possess which would be of value in serving on Cleveland Heights City Council? What working knowledge of City Council meetings do you currently have?**

Since 2015, I have regularly attended meetings, familiarizing myself with parliamentary procedures and the dynamics of local governance. I understand the importance of transparency, community input, and accountability in decision-making processes.

My Vision for Cleveland Heights:

I believe in a balanced government where power is shared between the Mayor and City Council, ensuring that residents' voices are heard and their rights protected. I am concerned about recent financial challenges and the transition to an elected Mayor system, particularly regarding appointments, voting rights, and representation. I will advocate for policies that promote fairness, prevent discrimination, and foster a thriving, inclusive community.

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**What educational training (formal or informal), employment and other life experiences have helped you develop the qualities, abilities, etc., described above?**

My background includes attending Cleveland State University in 2013, graduating from Cuyahoga Community College in 2020 with a focus on Arts and Paralegal Studies, and training as a cosmetologist at Interstate Beauty School. I plan to further my education in Music, Language,

	and Law to better serve our community.
<b>Please list your recent community, professional or charitable involvements. List the most recent first.</b>	Since 2015, I have been actively attending City Council meetings, gaining valuable insight into the legislative process and familiarizing myself with Roberts Rules of Order. This experience has helped me understand how decisions are made and how I can effectively advocate for residents.
<b>Do you have other responsibilities which would prevent you from participating in City Council and Council Committee work during certain hours or on certain days? Please note, having a full time job will not disqualify any applicant, and Council works hard to accommodate all members schedules when scheduling meetings.</b>	I appreciate the City Of Cleveland Heights consideration Cleveland heights is known for being a great community known for biking, hiking and it's commitment to environment sustainability. Cleveland Heights is a great urban sprawl because of the businesses and gaps in-between for sightseeing and patronage and greenspace cultivating new ideas , innovation and collaboration.
<b>State any additional information you would like to have considered.</b>	<b>In Summary:</b>  I am dedicated to serving Cleveland Heights with integrity, engaging with city departments effectively, and advocating for policies that benefit all residents. I am committed to transparency, fairness, and responsible governance, and I look forward to working with community members and fellow officials to build a better Cleveland Heights. Thank you for your consideration.
<b>Do you agree to electronically sign this form?</b>	Yes
<b>Signature</b>	James A. Williams