




LOWER 9TH WARD VOTER'S COALITION


OFFICE OF AT-LARGE COUNCILMEMBER, CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

ELECTION, OCTOBER 11, 2025

"Your Vote, Your Voice: Understanding Local Leadership"

 **QUALIFICATIONS TO RUN:** At-Large Council Members are elected officials who serve as citywide representatives, rather than focusing on geographic districts. They work to create laws, approve budgets, and oversight of city services to improve the community.


- Be at least 18 years of age
- Be a U.S. citizen
- Be a qualified elector and registered to vote in Orleans Parish
- Have been domiciled in the City of New Orleans for at least two (2) consecutive years immediately preceding the election
- Not have a felony conviction, unless civil rights have been restored

 **RECOMMENDED EXPERIENCE & EDUCATION:** Strong candidates demonstrate a deep understanding of citywide issues and the ability to build consensus across diverse communities.

- A bachelor's degree or higher in political science, public administration, law, business, or social sciences
- Experience in community leadership, nonprofit management, government service, or business development
- Skills in public speaking, policy analysis, budget management, and collaborative leadership

 **ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES:** At-Large Councilmembers are elected citywide and represent the interests of all neighborhoods across New Orleans. Their key responsibilities include:

- Propose, debate, and pass ordinances, resolutions, and budgets
- Review and approve the city budget and capital improvement plans
- Provide legislative oversight of city agencies and departments
- Serve on Council committees that oversee public safety, infrastructure, housing, transportation, and oversight of city departments and operations
- Engage in policy development that impacts the city at large
- Participate in emergency response coordination and major event planning
- Address issues that impact all residents: public safety, transportation, and infrastructure
- Collaborate with District Councilmembers to address both local and citywide concerns
- Serve as Council President

 **TYPICAL DAILY DUTIES:** Each day, an At-Large Councilmember may:

- Attend City Council meetings, public hearings, and committee briefings
- Meet with residents, advocacy groups, business leaders and advocacy groups
- Draft, review, and revise proposed legislation
- Respond to constituent concerns and collaborate on citywide service issues
- Review city contracts, policies, and infrastructure plans
- Represent New Orleans in regional coalitions or statewide advocacy efforts

- Attend legislative sessions
- Review proposed ordinances, development plans, and city contracts
- Collaborate with the Mayor's Office, city departments, and fellow Councilmembers
- Advocate for policies that improve city services, safety, and equity



QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER OF CANDIDATES RUNNING FOR OFFICE:

- 1. How will you exercise regulatory control over utility providers to maximize effectiveness, transparency, and affordability for customers?
- 2. What is your plan to address rising rent and property insurance across neighborhoods?
- 3. How will you invest in public transit to ensure accessibility for residents?
- 4. What policies will you support to prepare youth for jobs in New Orleans?
- 5. What performance benchmarks and public reporting mechanisms will you establish to hold city departments accountable for delivering high-quality services—especially in the areas of drainage, sanitation, blight elimination, and street maintenance—ensuring these efforts are both efficient and responsive to community needs?



WHY THIS OFFICE MATTERS: At-Large Councilmembers serve as leaders for all of New Orleans, not just one neighborhood. They provide citywide perspective is essential to building a more unified, responsive, and forward-thinking government.

- Represent the entire city of New Orleans.
- Crafts laws, oversee city services and departments, help pass the city budget, address citywide concerns like infrastructure, public safety, and housing.
- Lead committees and coordinate emergency responses.



DISTRICT VS. AT-LARGE COUNCILMEMBERS: Both roles are vital. District Councilmembers **serve as the closest link between residents and government**, while At-Large members ensure citywide balance.

At-Large Councilmembers

Elected by **all voters citywide**

Represent the **entire city**

Focus on **broad, citywide policies**

May serve as **Council President**

Act as **connectors across communities**, building unity and addressing systemic issues that impact multiple districts

District Councilmembers

Elected by voters in **one geographic district**

Represent a **specific neighborhood area**

Focus on **local services and development**

Serve on committees but not in citywide leadership



IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES:

- In-person/ By Mail Registration Deadline: September 10, 2025
- Geaux Vote Online Registration Deadline: September 20, 2025
- Early Voting Period: September 27 – October 4, 2025 (Sunday excluded)
- Election Day: October 11, 2025

*Created by the Lower 9th Ward Voter's Coalition, www.l9wvc.org, l9voters@gmail.com.
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