



# Troy City Council Code of Ethics

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## 1. The Troy City Council shall:

- Respect the confidentiality of privileged information;
- Recognize that an individual council member has no authority to speak or act for Council;
- Work with other council members to establish effective policies;
- Delegate authority for the running of the City to the administrative staff;
- Encourage the free expression of opinion by all council members;
- Seek systematic communications between council, administrative staff, and all elements of the community;
- Render all decisions **in a fair and impartial manner**, based on the available facts and independent judgment rather than succumbing to the influence of individuals or special interest groups;
- Make every effort to attend all meetings;
- Become informed concerning the issues to be considered at each meeting;
- Avoid actual or apparent conflicts of interest, and make appropriate disclosures;
- Refrain from using this position for personal benefit, nor for the benefit of family members or business associates;
- Use the same care and caution when using electronic media as would be exercised when speaking face-to-face or through written memorandum;
- Avoid use of derogatory or denigrating language;
- Treat all people fairly and with dignity and respect;
- Abstain from harassing or discriminatory behavior of any kind;
- **Participate in annual ethics training provided by City Administration or a qualified outside contractor.**
- ~~Other than receiving de minimis food and beverage in the course of official duties, such as grand openings, refuse any gift or gratuity or reward for an official action, and avoid any situation that could undermine public confidence.~~
- **Avoid any situation that could undermine public confidence, and neither solicit nor accept gifts offered for any official actions. There may be times when unsolicited items of a trivial value (less than \$25) are provided to City Council members in connection with marketing of new businesses or economic development, and such items can be retained as long as the aggregate value of gifts per year does not exceed \$250. City Council members shall annually submit a report of all unsolicited items received to the Troy City Clerk as part of the mandatory disclosure statements. City Council members and/or their significant others can accept invitations for ribbon cutting/grand openings and other ceremonial or celebratory events where food and/or beverages will be consumed, as long as the invitation is extended to the entire City Council and is consistent with the performance of Council's official duties, and at least 25 people are also expected to attend the event.**
- Adhere to the following tenets in the ICMA Code of Ethics (revised **June 2020 10/2019**):
  - Affirm the dignity and worth of local government services and maintain a deep sense of social responsibility as a trusted public servant. (Tenet 2)
  - Demonstrate by word and action the highest standards of ethical conduct and integrity in all public, professional, and personal relationships in order to merit the trust and respect of elected and appointed officials, employees, and the public. (Tenet 3)
  - Serve the best interest of the people. (Tenet 4)

2. Any City Council member may detail a suspected violation of this Code of Ethics by another City Council member, and forward this to the Troy City Council for action. The accused City Councilmember shall have an opportunity to respond to the allegations. If after considering all of the information, the Troy City Council determines that there was a violation of this Code of Ethics, then City Council may censure the offending City Council member, or take any other action that is allowed under the law, including but not limited to a request for a criminal misconduct investigation.



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Mayor Ethan Baker

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Council Member Edna Abraham

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Mayor Pro Tem Theresa Brooks

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Council Member Rebecca Chamberlain-Creanga

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Council Member Ann Erickson Gault

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Council Member David Hamilton

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Council Member Ellen Hodorek