

# Our Stamford Board of Representatives

## Why It Matters

Board members work on neighborhood plus city-wide issues. Their decisions directly affect all of us. For example, they put the spotlight on the mold problem in our schools so that action was taken. They watch over policing practices in each district. They also have a key voice in our city's major budget and financial management decisions. They can cut individual line items or totals in the Mayor's budget. They cannot increase budget nor move money from one item to another. An example of a budget they influence is the annual plan for the use of HUD (Department of Housing and Urban Development) funds.

## This November's Election - 2019

All Board seats are up for election in the same year we vote for our mayor. This year one seat is up for "special election" because of the death of a representative. The seat represents District 14. If you don't know what your Municipal (City) District is, click here:

<http://www.boardofreps.org/find-your-representative.aspx>

## More On What It Is

The City of Stamford Board of Representatives is a forty-member elected group. There are two members representing each of 20 Municipal Districts in Stamford. It is an unpaid position. Voters in each district elect their two Representatives who then serve for 4 years. After 4 years, the seats are up for election. The two Reps in each district can be from two different political parties or from the same party.

The Board takes actions including:

- ✓ Make changes/additions to the laws governing the City such as the recently enacted plastic bags ban. Sometimes they also propose a change in property tax relief for low and middle-income residents.
- ✓ Allow or not things like temporary closing of a street, finalizing the City budget, or the City wishing to purchase property.
- ✓ Approve or reject City contracts, people appointed to some of the City positions, and items that come from the community, the Mayor's Office, a City Committee or Department.

Both Board and Committee meetings are open to the public. The public can speak during the public comment section at the start of monthly full board meetings and, at Committee meetings when there is a public hearing on an agenda item or, if an individual is asked to attend and present information relevant to an agenda item.

*You can find more information on the website, [www.boardofreps.org](http://www.boardofreps.org)*

Sources

<http://www.boardofreps.org/>

[http://www.boardofreps.org/Data/Sites/43/userfiles/documents/bor-manual\\_final.pdf](http://www.boardofreps.org/Data/Sites/43/userfiles/documents/bor-manual_final.pdf)