

Role of the Council

As individuals, council members have no administrative authority. They cannot give orders or otherwise supervise city employees unless specifically directed to do so by the council. The council, however, has complete authority over all administrative affairs in the City. In Plan B cities, this authority is generally restricted to conducting investigations and establishing policies to be performed by the manager.

The major areas of council authority and responsibility are:

- Judging the qualification and election of its own members
- Setting and interpreting rules governing its own proceedings
- Exercising all the powers of cities that the law does not delegate to others
- Legislating for the City
- Directing the enforcement of city ordinances
- Appointing administrative personnel
- Transacting City business
- Managing the City's financial operations
- Appointing members of the boards
- Conducting the City's intergovernmental affairs
- Protecting the welfare of the City and its inhabitants
- Providing community leadership
- Other specific powers

