

## Office of the Mayor City of New Haven Democracy School Spring 2023



Democracy School will introduce residents to the structures, services, and leaders in the City of New Haven through a series of public information forums. City officials will introduce their work and lead discussion sessions aimed at fostering open lines of communication, enabling participants to take full advantage of city resources and empower them to become stronger community leaders.

Democracy School is open to any **New Haven resident, at least 18 years old**. 30 students will be accepted based on an assessment of submitted applications.

## **Democracy School Goals**

- \* Provide participants with an interactive learning experience that generates dialogue about city services, programs, and responsibilities, including day-to-day operations, challenges to city government, and budget processes.
- \* Promote partnerships between community and government by providing a forum where local government officials and community members can interact and exchange ideas.

## **Course Details**

Democracy School will meet <u>in person</u> on **Thursday evenings from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM** for 9 weeks consisting of 8 sessions and a final graduation ceremony if conditions permit. Location TBD.

DATE	TOPIC
April 27	Governing the City Pt. 1
May 4	Governing the City Pt. 2, Economic Development
May 11	Budget, Finance, & Taxes
May 18	Quality Neighborhoods
May 25	Public Safety
June 1	Health
June 8	Youth & Education
June 15	Law & Politics
June 22	Graduation Ceremony, details TBD

## Requirements

Participants should avoid missing class. Students should expect to be given simple class assignments throughout the course of Democracy School. These tasks are intended to enhance the class experience through experiential learning, reinforce understanding of course content, and to foster deeper discussions. These assignments might include attending a Board of Alders meeting, attending a committee meeting, meeting a City Hall employee, or attending a community event. After each class, each participant will be asked to fill out a brief evaluation form. Finally, all participants must follow the Democracy School's Rule of Conduct.