

July 2015

Profile of the 2015 Boston City Council Race

A small pool of candidates results in only two preliminary races

All 13 Boston City Councilors are running for re-election this year, but the competition is limited. Four incumbent At-Large Councilors and one other At-Large candidate will bypass the September 8th Preliminary Election and compete for the four seats in the General Election on November 3rd. Of the nine District seats, only two District Councilors will campaign this summer for the September 8th Preliminary Election to reduce the number of candidates in each race to two. Five District Councilors have no opponent and two have only one opponent meaning their names and the names of their opponents will only be on the November 3rd General Election ballot.

At-Large Race

The five candidates for the At-Large seats are:

1	Michael Flaherty *	At-Large
2	Stephen Murphy *	At-Large
3	Ayanna Pressley *	At-Large
4	Michelle Wu *	At-Large
5	Annissa Essaibi-George	At-Large

*Incumbent

A minimum of nine candidates is necessary to hold a preliminary election, so every candidate listed will be on the ballot of the General Election on November 3rd.

Unopposed District Races

The five returning District Councilors who will be running unopposed are:

1	Salvatore LaMattina	District 1
2	Bill Linehan	District 2
3	Matt O'Malley	District 6
4	Josh Zakim	District 8
5	Mark Ciommo	District 9

District Races with Challengers

Only Councilor Yancey (D4) and Councilor Jackson (D7) have more than one opponent and must compete in the Preliminary Election. Councilor Baker (D3) and Councilor McCarthy (D5) have one opponent whom they will face in the General Election.

1	Frank Baker *	District 3
2	Donnie Palmer	District 3
1	Charles Yancey *	District 4
2	Andrea Campbell	District 4
3	Jovan Lacet	District 4
4	Terrance Williams	District 4
1	Timothy McCarthy *	District 5
2	Jean-Claude Sanon	District 5
1	Tito Jackson *	District 7
2	Althea Garrison	District 7
3	Roy Owens	District 7
4	Charles Clemons	District 7
5	Kevin Dwire	District 7
6	Haywood Fennell Sr	District 7

*Incumbent

Past Elections

This year there are 11 challengers, which is slightly fewer than past elections when there was no mayoral race. In 2011 there were 16 challengers with three preliminary elections, but it should be noted that seven of these candidates ran for an open seat vacated by Maureen Feeney (D3). In 2007 there were 15 challengers, with only two preliminaries.

Salaries

The current salary for a City Councilor is \$87,500, although this figure is being reviewed by the Compensation Advisory Board. Each Councilor also receives a personal staff allocation of \$206,250, with the Council President receiving \$247,500.