

ORDINANCE NO. 1331
ENSHRINING TRANSPARENCY AND REPRESENTATION ON APPOINTIVE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

WHEREAS, Mayor Caroline Simmons, recognizing the importance of transparency and representation in the appointment process to the boards and commissions of the City of Stamford (the "Boards and Commissions"), established monthly reporting practices in which the City of Stamford publishes anonymous aggregate data on the appointees to the Boards and Commissions; and

WHEREAS, the 32nd Board of Representatives agrees and upholds that ensuring transparency and representation within our appointive Boards and Commissions is of the utmost importance to ensure all voices are represented and have equal access within the City of Stamford; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section C2-10-2 of the Stamford Charter, the Board of Representatives is vested with the authority to approve the Mayor's nominations to the Boards and Commissions; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 52-7 of Chapter 52 of the Stamford Code of Ordinances, the Board of Representatives, through its President, Majority Leader, Minority Leader or Committee Chairmen, shall have the authority to compel the reasonable compilation and reporting of data by any officer, agency, or other member of municipal government necessary to carry out the legislative responsibilities granted to the Board of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, the 32nd Board of Representatives has determined that to faithfully discharge its duties under Sections C2-10-2 and C6-00-3 of the Stamford Charter and protect for future generations the continued practice of prioritizing transparency and representation, the Board of Representatives determines it is necessary to enshrine reporting requirements of the Mayor, or his or her designee, to deliver to Board of Representatives aggregate anonymous information regarding the applicants and appointees of the Boards and Commissions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF STAMFORD THAT:

Chapter 52 of the Stamford Code of Ordinances hereby be appended to add the following:

ARTICLE III – AFFIRMATIVE REPORTING

Sec. 52-11 – Boards and Commissions Report.

(a) The Mayor, or his or her designee, may make available an application for individuals interested in serving on an appointive Board or Commission, the form of which shall be determined by the Mayor, or his or her designee. The aforementioned application shall be accessible both online and at the office of the Town Clerk upon request.

(b) The Mayor, or his or her designee, may solicit from applications, though the applicant is under no obligation to provide, demographic information including, but not limited to, ethnicity, gender identity, political party, age, highest level of education, occupation, and languages spoken.

(c) The Mayor, or his or her designee, shall submit to the Clerk of the Board of the Representatives, not less than once every six (6) months and in advance of its next regularly scheduled meeting, a written report containing (i) the data collected pursuant to Secs. 52-11(b), and (ii) the enumerated items set forth in Sec. 52-11(e), the form of which shall be determined by the Mayor, or his or her designee, in their reasonable discretion. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Mayor, or his or her designee, may elect to provide additional information beyond that required under Sec. 52-11 to the extent they determine such information would be helpful to the Board of Representatives and is reasonably related to the subject matter of the report.

(d) The report required pursuant to Sec. 52-11(d) shall also include the total number of applicants during the Mayor's then-current term in office. For purposes of this Section, an "applicant" shall mean a unique individual who has submitted one or more applications for appointment to a Board or Commission during the Mayor's then-current term, regardless of the number of applications submitted by such individual. The report shall also include the number of applicants interviewed over the same period of time, the number of appointees currently serving, the number of vacant positions, and the number of appointees currently serving beyond the expiration of their term.

(e) The report required pursuant to Sec. 52-11(d) shall present the data contained therein in an aggregate anonymous form and shall not be presented in such a way as to reasonably identify any individual applicant, nominee, or appointee.

(f) The report required pursuant to Sec. 52-11(d) shall minimally present the data with respect to each of three distinct groups of persons: (i) those which have applied to be appointed to a Board or Commission, (ii) those which have been interviewed by an official of the City of Stamford in connection with their application, and (iii) those which have been nominated before the Board of Representatives.

This Ordinance shall take effect on the first day of the next month at least thirty days after enactment.

Ramya Shaw, President, and Parker Johnson, Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was approved on the Consent Agenda by unanimous voice vote by the 32nd Board of Representatives at the regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, September 8, 2026.



Ramya Shaw, President

Dated this 21 day of September, 2026



Parker Johnson, Clerk

Dated this 22 day of September, 2026



Caroline Simmons, Mayor, City of Stamford

Dated this 29th day of September, 2026

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 1, 2026

cc: Mayor Caroline Simmons
Bridget Fox, Chief of Staff
Thomas Cassone, Esq., Law Department
Elda Sinani, Director of OPM
Tony Romano, Director of Administration
Matthew Quiñones, Director of Operations
David Hoak, City & Town Clerk
Leah Kagan, Director of Economic Development
Lou DeRubeis, Director of Public Safety, Health & Welfare