

City of Louisville
Line of Succession In The Event of a Disaster Emergency
(As of January 1, 2024)

As provided in Chapter 2, Sec. 2.32.040.A of the Louisville Municipal Code regarding “Line of succession”, if the Mayor is unable to perform the duties of the mayor set forth in this chapter¹, then the duties conferred upon the mayor shall be performed in descending order, as follows: by the mayor pro-tem, then by the city council member most senior in length of service, and in the event two or more members have the same seniority, then by the city council member whose last name begins with a letter that is the closest to the beginning of the alphabet. Accordingly, this line of succession is as follows:

1. Mayor Chris Leh
2. Mayor Pro Tem Caleb Dickinson
3. Councilmember Deborah Fahey
4. Councilmember Barbara Hamlington
5. Councilmember Dietrich Hoefner
6. Councilmember Judi Kern
7. Incoming Ward I Appointee

As provided in Chapter 2, Sec. 2.32.040.B of the Louisville Municipal Code regarding “Line of succession”, the city manager shall, at the start of each calendar year, publish and submit to city council an order of succession of city officials who shall execute the duties and powers described in this chapter for execution by the city manager in the event that the city manager is unavailable to manage a disaster emergency. Accordingly, this line of succession is as follows:

1. City Manager Jeff Durbin
2. Deputy City Manager Samma Fox
3. Finance Director Ryder Bailey
4. Police Chief Rafael Gutierrez

In the event none of the above noted people are available to serve, the next highest ranking person within each of the various departments, in the line of succession as indicated above, shall serve.

¹ The Mayor’s powers include the power to declare that a disaster emergency exists and to determine what, if any, advance public notice is feasible in order to convene an emergency meeting of the City Council in order to consider matters related to the disaster emergency.